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August 7th, 1975, ISSUE No. 30

The ABC's of Bass Lures

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FREE LURES!
See Page 39.

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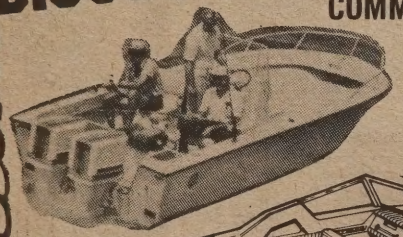

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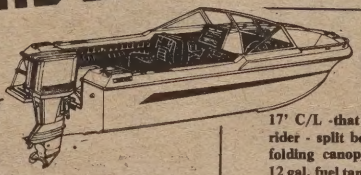

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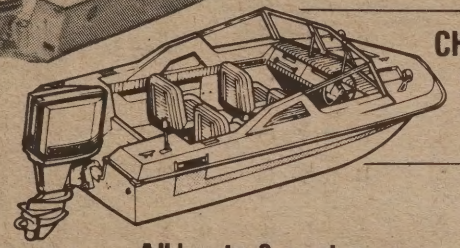

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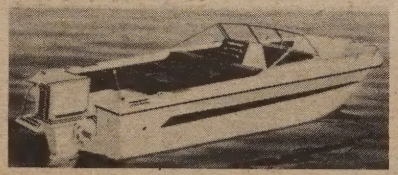

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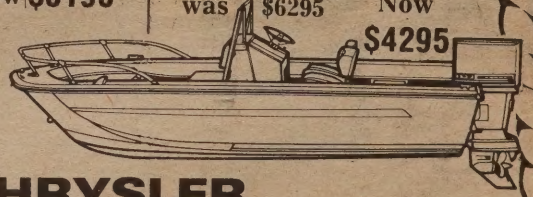

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 10, No. 30 August 7th, 1975

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ABOUT THE COVER: Capt. Frank Braddick of the Montauk charterboat HURRY UP swings 4 large bluefish over the stern that were taken on one umbrella rig at the Sub Buoy. On only two passes, two rigs took 15 blues, only one short of the maximum. In a little over an hour, 40 monster blues 7 to 23 lbs. came aboard the Hurry Up.

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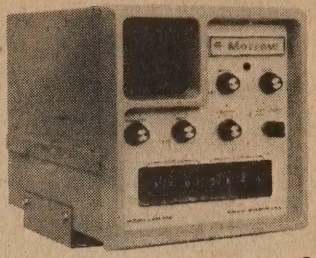

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Chum Lines

Just a line to let you know I think you're swell. It is a rare day when fishing experts give away their knowledge the way your people do. The following I wrote for a laugh.

There we were in the dark of night speeding along to our fishing grounds. Many miles lay ahead and we were a tired bunch for the hour was only two. There was Harry and Al, Sid and I and a whole load of fishing gear. We had checked the stuff for food and lunch, hooks, rods and reels were all in order. Our waterproof shoes and swimming suits too, had received our examination. We had sent a check to reserve a boat that would pass Coast Guard inspection. About 6, nine more people arrived at the dock and loaded the boat with our gear. With happy hearts and hopes high we cast off for our destination.

We finally arrived about a mile offshore and dropped our rusty old anchor. We quickly assembled rod and reel and in chorus shouted "Who's got the BAIT?!!!

There was "No Answer"!!! **Sidney Ornstein, Peekskill, N.Y.**

Dear Chum Lines,

I am a fourteen year old fisherman who fishes a lot on party boats. In the two years that I have been buying the Long Island Fisherman I have seen several letters on good and bad party boats. Here is a good letter.

I believe that the party boat "Miss Freeport" which is skippered by Capt. John Albaticchio really deserves credit.

On t trip, Wednesday July 9, 1975, we fished in Jones Inlet for fluke with hardly any fluke caught for the twenty-three fares. The Capt. kept moving us around bringing us into Swift Creek and we still didn't catch many.

Early in the morning I caught a fluke of a couple of pounds and all the day long it was the pool fish.

Since we weren't doing to good the Capt. kept the boat out an extra half hour or so and someone caught a fluke a pound or two bigger than mine. We were on our way in and the people had a fluke or two and maybe a couple of seabass.

The mate gave out to all the customers a $2 discount on the next trip. When the Captain found out that I lost the pool knowing I had the pool fish all day he gave me a $4 discount on the next trip.

Because of this action by the Capt. I will now go out on that boat many more times in the years to come. I would like to give my many thanks to Capt. John Albaticchio and his mate Warren for a very fine day on the party boat "Miss Freeport." **Bobby Kulfan, Mineola, N.Y.**

Dear Fellow Fisherman,

I'm writing this letter in respect to the so called "Killers of the Deep".... The fish that nature made to kill off the old and sick fish in the sea to keep the marine elosystem in balance. The Shark!

They wouldn't be these killers if we wouldn't make them that. For example: All sharks are unpredictable..Yes But the majority of them won't attack unless provoked. So, if you provoke a shark you deserve what ever the shark does to you. If there are shark warnings don't go into the water.

A lot of the killings of sharks now are due to the movie "Jaws". People see the movie and then go and fish for shark. They think that they are getting "Revenge" on the shark for being a killer.**David Mahler, Baldwin N.Y.**

How To Start A Fishing Club

I am interested in starting a Fishing Club amongst friends. Perhaps you could give me the details on how I would go about getting one started and what is necessary. **Charles Petrone Jr. Brooklyn N.Y.**

The ingredients needed to start a fishing club is simply 6 or 7 interested fishermen. Just get together, elect your officers and set your by-Laws. It's that simple.

If you wich to get a club charter and register it in Albany, then it gets quite involved. First off you need a lawyer. It might be a good idea to find a lawyer who fishes and make him a charter member; it will save you some money

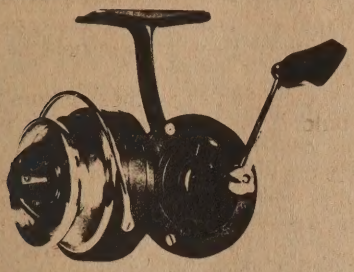
The Long Island FISHERMAN

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

Al Harleston of Coram called in to L.I.F. a description of his car by the Friday deadline to become this weeks L.I.F. litter box contest winner. Al has been sent a check for $20 and has also chosen a free fishing trip for two aboard the Viking Star in Montauk for his prize. For information on how you may participate in the contest, see page 21.

this way. The Club should be a corporation with non profit status, or else you will have to pay corporate taxes.

The non profit status has some draw backs. It means you cannot lobby or influence your legislators as a club. However, you can do this as an individual.



CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

Great South Bay Tourny

On September 7, 1975 the Babylon Tuna Club will hold the third annual "Great South Bay Tournament". This is an inshore fishing contest, covering the waters of the Great South Bay. It is unique in that the small boat fishermen can compete with the large boat fishermen. Prizes and trophies will be awarded for club and individual entries: the species are Bluefish, Blackfish, Striped Bass, Weakfish, Fluke and Flounder. Entry fee is $3 per angler. Club entry is $35 for a 3 boat team. Clubs may enter more than one team.

Free charts are to be given out and boat ramps and boat berths are available nearby. For information or applications contact: Dick Poucel, 451 Fire Island Avenue, Babylon 11702 or call MO9-0498.

Results of Chopper Roundup

Thank you for participating in our 4th Annual Chopper Roundup. We appreciate your interest, cooperation and good sportsmanship in making this contest a success. Prizes and trophies will be awarded at our Annual Dinner-Dance on December 6, 1975 at Musicaros in Huntington. Winners are not able to attend the Dinner-Dance may call me at (516) 842-3942 to arrange for pickup of prizes and trophies.

Our only problem this year was the wind on land and sea. As you witnessed at the weigh-in stations, even the scales were bouncing. However, in order to be fair, we held questionable fish from each weigh-in station for a balance scale weigh-off, to determine the winners of our 1975 Chopper Roundup. The results are as follows:

1st Place went to Al Lorenzettie, Jr., of the Babylon Tuna Club with 11 lbs. 2 oz.; 2nd Place went to Tom Spano, of the Hudson Anglers with 10 lbs. 11 oz.; and 3rd Place went to Bill Maresce, an individual with 10 lbs. 8 oz.

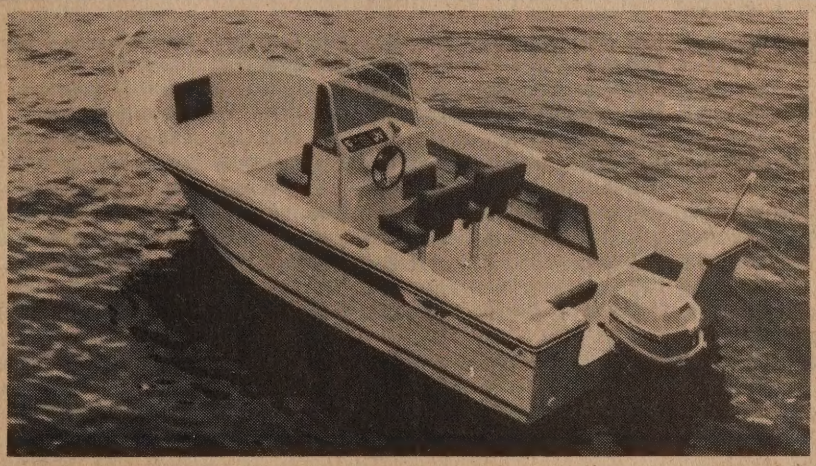
As far as the women are concerned 1st Place went to Muriel Crocker of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club with 10 lbs.; 2nd Place to Peggy Fornato, of the Babylon Tuna Club with 9 lbs. 9 oz; and 3rd Place to Winnie Byrnes, of the Babylon Tuna Club with 9 lbs. 7 oz.

The Captains Award for the Ten Heaviest Fish went to Tony Froitzheim of the Hudson Anglers with a total weight of 87 lbs. 4 oz.

As far as club teams go 1st was Hudson Anglers with 297 lbs; 2nd was the Eastern Anglers—B with 236 lbs. 12 oz; and 3rd was the Eastern Anglers—A with 172 lbs. 14 oz.

The winner of the boat with women anglers only was Laurel B from the Babylon Tuna Club with 67 lbs. 1 oz.

Our congratulations to all the winners.



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with Angelo Peluso

The ABC's of Bass Lures

In my last article I presented some of the facts relating to the effectiveness of one of angling's most lethal lures, the plastic worm. I would now like to turn the focus of our attention to another new comer on the bass fishing scene. The category of lure that I will present has earned a reputation for being a "clutch" fish getter. As a matter of fact, its reputation has been greatly enhanced by its ability to come through with fish for anglers fishing in some of the more challenging professional bass tournaments. During one such event anglers were offering as much as $25-$50 to anyone willing to part with the magic plugs.

Now that I have aroused your curiosity, I'll let you in on the lure. The category I make reference to has been given a wide variety of titles. Some of them are: Alphabet Lures, Pregnant Fish Lures, Fat Lures, Crank Baits, to name a few. One of the first to hit the national scene was the lure commercially manufactured as the Big O; the beginning of a lure craze that has Big A's through Big Z's.

The most noticeable lure feature is its unique shape. Its overall appearance is a rather "fat" one since the lure has a very chunky construction. The lure is buoyant so when it is initially cast, it floats. The head of the lure has attached a lip which enables the plug to dive to depths of 8-12 feets when retrieved. The depth to which the plug will dive is contingent upon the speed that it is retrieved. A slow retrieve will keep the lure just below the surface, but begin to crank it and the plug dives and vibrates in a way that is too tempting for Mr. Bass to resist. This type of plug has so much action that a novice user might be "lured" into believing that a real fish is on the end of the line.

In terms of fish catching ability, the "fat" plugs have two very important traits, both of which happen to be noise attractors. The very lively, pulsating motion of the lure itself is sufficient to send out considerable vibrations to a bass' lateral line. Added to this are a number of noise rattlers that are placed in the body of the plug. When the lure is retrieved both of these elements work in concert to create a series of vibrations that compel bass to come and take a look. Once the fish's curiosity has been aroused to this point, a strike usually follows.

If we look back to the discussion of the plastic worm we will see that the lure's effectiveness was atributable to its versatility. The same holds true for this category. The qualities of the lure allow it to be fished as either a top water plug or a medium running diver. The angler can also combine these two attributes and fish the lure in a manner that incorporates the best of both worlds. I have found that a retrieve which utilizes both top water movements and sub-surface movements wll induce more strikes, on the average. There are times when one method will far surpass the other, but for sheer consistency the combination can't be beat. A lure very recently marketed by the Rebel Company has taken the concept of the crank baits one step further and has come up with a rather unique design. The Super R is a crank bait's crank bait. In addition to its floatation, diving lip, rattle and razor sharp hooks, the lure has the ability to remain suspended during periods when it is not being retrieved. Let me explain. The angler makes a cast and begins to retrieve. As the lure dives, due to the fast cranking, the angler stops the retrieve. Now instead of rising to the surface the Super R suspends. Now the implications of this for the avid bassman are phenomenal. Imagine being able to suspend a lure over a known piece of structure where bass are likely to be hiding out. It is almost (I said almost) a certainty that a lure zipped passed the nose of a bass and then stopped in a suspended manner will draw a bit of attention, and if we can get the fish's attention we have a part of the battle won. For those of you that will develop an interest in crank baits, I suggest that you give one of these little wonders a try.

Regardless of the brand of plug that I use I have found that that one method of fishing them is far superior to others that I have also tried. This method seems to work best during the summer months when a bass' metabolism is increased due to the higher water temperature. What I like to do is this. I will make my initial cast to either some visible piece of structure or over some open water that I know has submerged structure. I will allow the lure to rest motionless until the impace rings have had a chance to disperse. I will then twitch the lure so that it dives a few inches under the surface of the water. This movement will be repeated three or four times. Then, I will begin to crank the lure very fast enabling it to dive to its maximum depth. Hopefully, its dive will take it past the piece of structure that lies below. As the lure passes over or near the under water obstacles I will cease to reel. Most of the crank baits will then begin to surface with a fluttering action. Once again, this action seems to be too much of an attractor. It is at this point in the retrieve that a number of strikes will come. The angler should be constantly alert and ready to strike should be notice even the slightest bit of line movement. As an alternate method of retrieve, I will allow the lure to reach its maximum depth and then continue the retrieve by making a series of

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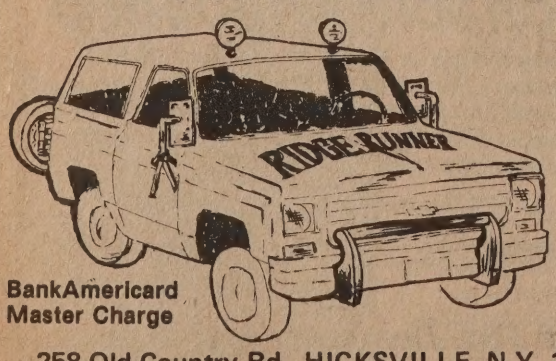

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intermittent pauses. The jerks, bumps and grinds turn the fish on. It is sometimes necessary to resort to other than constant retrieves if the fish are going to be coaxed into hitting.

Though this varied method of retrieve has been most successful for me, I do not want to neglect mentioning the crank retrieve. This too is a method that has proved itself during those dog days of summer. Its effectiveness is enhanced by the bass' habit of schooling. A lure furiously cranked through the water, through a concentration of bass is very likely to generate a strike. A bass has to react fast to a fast moving bait. It doesn't have time to think (if they do normally) It just reacts to the stimulus and bango, it strikes. All that you have to do to utilize this approach is cast the plug and begin the retrieve as soon as it hits the water. Reel like heck and hold on. When fishing in this manner, the strikes are savage.

Well, that's my introduction to crank baits, or whatever you want to call them. Like plastic worms, they work. Pick some up and see for yourself.

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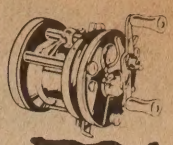

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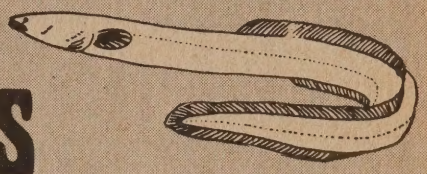

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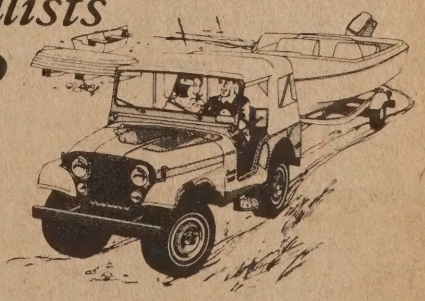

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PARTS FOR JEEP

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THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

Clam Chumming for Stripers Part Two

Last week we discussed the five different techniques of chumming with clam bellies for striped bass, and how some anglers will be successful with one method that just won't produce for others. This week we will concentrate on bait presentation, areas to chum and some of the finer points of this excellent method.

First, let's picture in our minds how the bass will respond and feed in a chum slick. As the clam juices and bits of meat are slowly carried away by the current, they will form an unbroken stream or "slick" that a school of stripers will eventually cross if you have chosen the area carefully. When they cross the slick and smell the clams, the bass will turn up current and start swimming towards the source of the shum, eating whatever tidbits that may drift within their reach. When they reach a point in the slick that has enough pieces of clam to keep them content, the stripers will stop swimming and remain stationary in the slick by just finning. They will move a few feet to the right or left to inhale a piece of sham, then return to the stationary point. Usually, they will not go out of their way to catch a piece of clam drifting above or below their heads.

The trick is to get the bass feeding as close to the boat as possible, ideally about 50 feet. At this distance there is no problem in keeping your baited hook at the same level in the slick as the feeding fish. The slick will also be heavy and unbroken, so you should be able to hold the fish to the boat indefinitely. When all factors are working correctly, it is often possible and even likely that you will fish out the entire pod of fish—if there are fifty fish in the pod, you will boat fifty fish. For this reason, commercial hook-and-line fishermen will always clam chum alone—more lines in the water do not necessarily mean more fish.

If you chum too heavily, there is no reason for the bass to come close to the boat—they will stay at a distance, eating their fill of clams. The further away the bass are from the boat, the harder it will be to hold them, and even if you are it will be more difficult to catch them. This is because the chum slick will be cone shaped—narrow at the boat and becoming wider and wider the further away it is. If the bass are lying far back in the wide portion of the slick several negative factors will occur. First, the bits of meat will be widely dispersed, so the bass will not remain stationary, rather shooting back and forth across the slick to pick up individual pieces of meat. This is tiring business for a little piece of clam, so the bass will soon lose interest and move on to greener pastures.

Due to the fact that the chum will be widely dispersed far back in the slick, it is very easy to have a break or gap in it. A one foot gap between chum at the boat can multiply into a 10 or 15 foot gap in the slick far behind the boat. If the bass are scooting all around and they hit one of these gaps, they may move in a direction away from the slick and you will lose them. So if you are only taking an occasional bass far back in the slick, revise your chumming technique—you're doing something wrong.

Bait presentation is the second critical aspect of clam chumming that can make or break the day. The rig is as simple as it can get—a hook tied directly to the line. Do not use a leader, snelled hook or any snaps and swivels because they will only add water resistance to your line, causing the bait to rise above the slick. Hooks can be either a 3/0 or 5/0 gold beak baitholder or a tuna type hook with a short shank. In either case, load the hook with as many clam bellies as it will hold, leaving the needle-sharp point of the hook slightly exposed. It's a good practice to rebait with fresh bellies everytime the rig is brought back to the boat hitless. It isn't wasting clams, because the old ones can be added to the clam slick and you'll always be fishing with nice, juicy bait.

The most critical aspect of the bait presentation itself is that the baited hook moves naturally in the current at the same speed and at the same level as the clam slick. For this reason, light test monofilament is in order because the heavier the monofilament the greater the water resistance upon it, causing the bait to rise above the slick. Remember, the clams in the chum don't have anything adding water resistance to them, and you're trying to duplicate that movement. Use twelve to twenty pound test monofilament, the lightest test that will still match with the rod and reel you are using.

Regardless of what actions you may take to cut down on water resistance there will still be many ocasions that weight will be necessary to bring the bait down to the same level as the clum slick and feeding fish. The best bet is to add a small rubber-core clinch sinker to the line about three or four feet above the hook. The rubber-core sinkers are easy to put on and take off withing putting unwanted nicks or frays in the line. Carry an assortment of sizes, and if two people are fishing have one add a sinker while the other doesn't to see which will produce fish.

A light bait casting or boat rod and reel with monofilament as described are ideal outfits for clam chumming. Light spinning outfits may be used but are not preferred because line control is more difficult. A large net for school bass and a sharp long handled gaff for the larger cows are both required equipment on any clam chumming expedition.

After you have anchored and have a good chum slick moving, take the well-baited hook and place it in the water. Put the reel on free spool and slowly feed out line to allow the bait to drift in the current naturally with the chum slick. Keep the thumb of one hand lightly on the revolving spool and strip off line with the thumb and index finger of the other. Always keep the rod and line at right angles so that you are in a good striking position to set the hook when a fish takes the bait. Until you have taken the first bass, let out several hundred feet of line before bringing the bait back to the boat. Once you have the fish close to the boat there's no reason to let out that much if you don't get a hit. Just go a little past the feeding fish, and if you don't hook up, reel in and start over again.

It is very important that the bait is never stopped or held motionless as it is being fed into the slick—if it is, the bait will immediately begin to rise to the surface, above the heads of the feeding fish. If you don't get a hit, reel in as fast as possible. The bass will NEVER hit a clam belly moving up-current, so reeling in slowly is just wasting precious time.

Striped bass will usually take a clam belly in one of two manners. When they pounce on the bait there isn't any problem—just set the hook and reel 'em in. But more than likely the bass

will just casually swim up to the bait, take it in their mouths, squeeze all the juices out of it and quickly spit the hook out as soon as they feel the metal. When the bass feed like this, all you will detect is a bite very similar to a very softly nibbling flounder. If you aren't alert or keep a lot of slack in the line, you may not even feel it and wonder how the bait keeps disappearing. So be on your toes constantly, and set the hook at the slightest unnatural movement of the bait.

What often happens to anglers just getting into clam chumming is that when they finally hook up with a bass they get so excited they completely forget about chumming. Keep that slick going, even if you have to stop playing the fish for a few seconds! The bass himself will often aid you at this critical moment by emptying his stomach contents, which is the clams he's been eating, as he attempts to spit out the hook. Keep the chum going out at the same pace as before unless the fish was taken far back in the slick—then you can lighten up a little to draw the fish closer. Just make sure the slick is kept a constant, unbroken stream.

There is one other technique of bait presentation used by some of the local bass sharpies on the north shore that I won't go into because I know little about it and the subject will be covered in a future article in The Long Island Fisherman. Instead of monofilament, lead core line is used and the rod is fished dead in the rod holder, contrary to everything I know or have heard about clam chumming. But I'm told that it produces fish, and who can argue with success.

Clam chumming can produce fish just about anywhere that bass can be located. Some of the more popular areas that produce regularly are Montauk, the State Channels in the south shore bays, Fire Island Inlet and the Wantaugh Causeway bridge. Try these areas, but don't neglect any of the hot spots you may have taken bass personally at by plugging or trolling. Productive tides are important and different at each location, and it's up to you to discover which are best where. If you chum for an hour without a fish, up anchor and try another spot.

In conclusion, there is a story about clam bellies that will interest us consumers. The clam bellies we use for chum come from the clam chowder factories. The meaty part of the clam is cut off for the soup and we use what's left over. But until it was discovered a few years ago to be an excellent chum for bass, this excess clam couldn't be given away—now, it's suddenly worth $6 a can!

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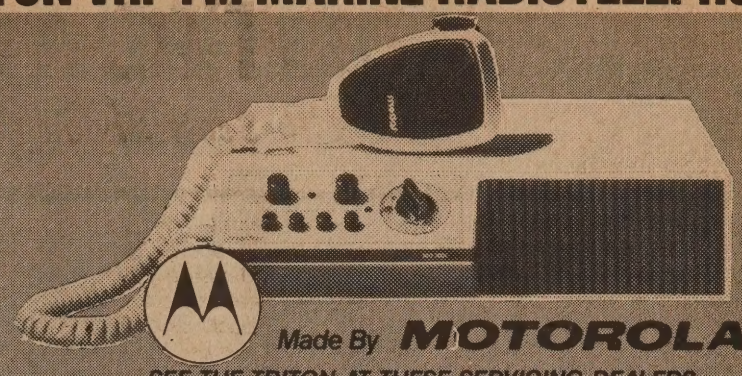

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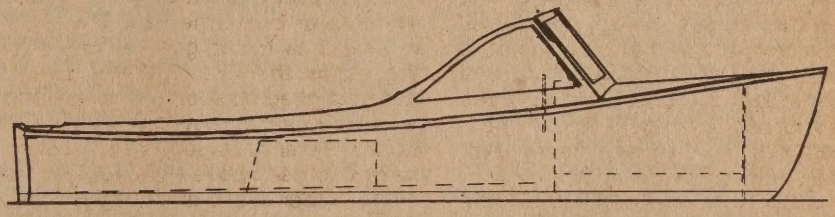

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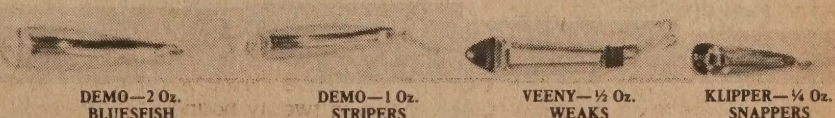

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DIVING

with John Fennimore

The R/V Black Coral

While musing through one of the several diving publications that I read, I spotted an interesting ad. "You Are Invited," it stated in bold letters to me, "To Dive On One of N.Y. Most Famous Wrecks."

Undersea Systems was unveiling a new type of dry diving suit, and they wanted select people to come and see and/or try it out. They were looking for instructors, dive shops, and professional divers, but I sent them a card anyway. Sure enough, I got the call. Shortly thereafter I found myself in Bay Shore, half asleep on the dock at 6:30 a.m., where people were running all over the decking of that monsterous 63-foot dive boat.

On the way out we were given the particulars about the Viking Suit. The more he talked about it, the more obscure my idea of the suit became. Certain aspects were incomprehensible to me.

The scanner was switched on and the captain began the tedious search for the exact location of our target, the cruiser San Diego, which was torpedoed, or struck by a submarine mine in the year 1918. The explosion tore a crater in the ship's hull, and this massive 587-footer capsized and settled to the bottom, twenty fathoms below. The highest point of the wreck is its keel which is in about 60 feet of water, and the wreck lies approximately eight miles offshore.

While soundings were being made, we received a practical demonstration of the suit, of which made my eyes bug out. Till now I had been ashamed to ask them how one gets into the suit. This was due to the fact that the suit had no zippers, and the pants, jacket and boots were all one piece. I had concluded there were only two ways: being born in it, or by taking the diver to the factory where they make the suit, then dipping him in hot vulcanized rubber. My "theories" were later to be disproved. It was possible for a human to get into the suit—but help was required.

The anchor was dropped and took hold; two crew members in Viking suits jumped over the side to secure it. Now confusion reigned. People getting suited-up were trying to make up diving teams. A man with a stopwatch took the names and recorded the dive times of every diver. This scene was comparable to the mass abandonment of a sinking ship. Everyone jumped over the side, including the captain.

Divers began surfacing with their catches of lobster which averaged about three to four pounds. I was surprised to see that no one brought back any "trinkets". They say that the bottom was covered with stuff, mostly junk, but a few choice goodies were sprinkled in.

Finally it was my turn to dive. The policy on board that day was strictly doubles. They wanted to be totally sure that a diver would have much more air than he might need. I had a single 80 cubic-foot tank, which is sufficient to make a no-decom dive for about 20 minutes at 120 feet. But the safety margin is much less than the 145 cubic feet of air or so in twin 72 cubic-foot tanks, therefore, I was delegated to go no more than 80 feet deep. which is the top portion of the wreck.

The water temperature was fifty degrees, but it didn't faze me a bit because I was wearing a ¼-inch hooded wet suit. Two crew members and myself jumped into the water and snorkeled to the anchor line. Our desent was rushed because the two divers I was with had already dived and the repetetive dive index cut our time greatly.

The wreck was very pretty. Every inch seemed to be covered with sea anemones. Ling, small blackfish and cunner were everywhere, with a few sea bass mixed in. We swam along for about 200 yards, the length of the ship. Time seemed to go by too quickly; and soon it was time to surface.

Back on board people began gathering their equipment. We began talking to divers who came from as far away as Oklahoma. One diver who came up from South Carolina was in the water only 5 minutes due to a regulator failure at 75 feet. Talking to one of the crew members I found out that the **Black Coral** was involved with some reef building inside Fire Island Inlet. They took four old fishing boats and sunk them. While sinking in approximately 40' of water, the divers rode them down, sort of experiencing the feeling of a captain going down with his ship.

I also learned that the **Black Coral** is involved with the Coastal Diving Academy. For the sport diver it offers a basic scuba course, forgotten diver course, and an advanced diving program (ADP). The ADP course appears to be very good, involving ten dives and some advanced diving theory. It's not enough to just be certified now-a-days, with divers diving deeper and staying longer than ever. If you are interested, the number to call is (516) 665-2526.

They also have commercial diving courses, and take out chartered parties or people that just want to come along on regular trips.

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SALTWATER TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

A NICE CATCH OF BIG KINGFISH WAS MY REWARD WHILE DRIFTING GREAT SOUTH BAY NEAR THE MOUTH OF SNAKE HILL CHANNEL. BESIDES FLUKE ON MY BAY ROD AND NO WEAKS ON THE SPIN-CASTER, I FISHED SOME *SKIMMER CLAM BAIT* ON A FRESHWATER BAIT CASTING ROD AND FOUND I WAS INTO A SCHOOL OF KINGS! MY HOOKS WERE DEADLY LITTLE NO. 4 SHORT SHANK EAGLE CLAW HOOKS - AND WOULD YOU BELIEVE BOTH DOUBLE HEADER KINGS AND FLUKE ON THIS SET UP!

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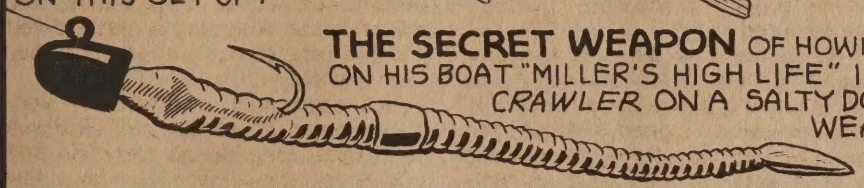
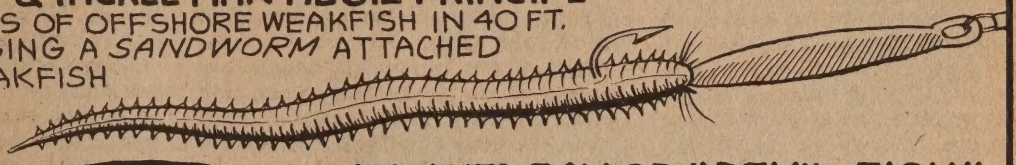
THE RIG TWO NO. 4 HOOKS ON A FISH FINDER RIG.



THE SECRET WEAPON OF HOWIE MILLER OF WEST BABYLON ON HIS BOAT "MILLER'S HIGH LIFE" IS A *BROWN PLASTIC NIGHT-CRAWLER* ON A SALTY DOG HEAD. KILLS BLUES AND WEAKS IN THE BAY BY THE CAPTREE BAY BRIDGE.

BABYLON BAIT & TACKLE MAN AUGIE PRINCIPE MAKES CATCHES OF OFFSHORE WEAKFISH IN 40 FT. OF WATER JIGGING A *SANDWORM* ATTACHED TO A SMALL WEAKFISH DIAMOND JIG.



A HUGE MANTA RAY OR "DEVIL FISH" VISITED GREAT SOUTH BAY IN JULY AND SURFACED BY THE LIGHTHOUSE. IT ALSO SWAM THE FLATS AND WAS SEEN BY CLAMDIGGERS ON BOTH SIDES AT ONCE BELOW THEIR 7 FT. WIDE GARVEY. THE BIG RAY ALSO STARTLED A NIGHT FISH JACKER AND MADE CONTACT WITH FISH SCIENTIST DOC GRELL. *ATLANTIC MANTAS* TOP 3,000 LBS. AND REACH A WIDTH OF 22 FT. THEY ARE HARMLESS CRITTERS THAT HUNT PLANKTONIC CRUSTACEANS AND SMALL FISH.

THOSE BIG 17 LB. CHOPPERS ARE OLD FISH, 14 YRS. OF AGE, ACCORDING TO RESEARCH IN THE SANDY HOOK MARINE LABORATORY BY DR. BORI OLLA. THE STUDIES WERE DONE ON BLUEFISH IN THE LAB TANK AND THE SCIENTISTS CAME UP WITH THIS GRAPH SHOWING APROXIMATE AGES FOR BLUEFISH OF DIFFERENT WEIGHTS AND LENGTHS.

AGE YRS.	WT. LBS.	LENGH INCHES	AGE YRS.	WT. LBS.	LENGH INCHES
1	½	8	8	12.6	30
2	2.2	13 ½	9	13.9	31 ¾
3	4.2	18	10	15	32
4	6.1	22	11	15.9	32 ½
5	7.9	25	12	16.6	33
6	9.7	27	13	17.2	34
7	11.02	28 ½	14	17.6	34 ½

Surf Side

with Doc Muller

Long Hot Summer Part One
Talk to a Skin Diver

Have you ever listened to a wise old regular proclaim: "I know that they're out there, damn it!" His stringer may be empty yet many years of hard work have taught him that the fish are there at this time of the year and should be hitting at this stage of the tide. His frustrations emanate from his own failure to come up with the lure and its proper retrieve that will fool them.

But actually he shouldn't be so hard on himself. The fish may simply not be feeding. Then too, they may be looking for worms with their noses straight down ignoring overhead swimmers. During the long hot summer the fish, especially bass, are sluggish. They are not migrating and warm water temperatures have made them much less aggressive. They are, as the saying goes, hard to fool. "Fire" in the water may complicate your fishing.

But things are not hopeless. For one thing you should go talk to a skin diver. This time of year many skin divers work the quiet beaches because the lethargic fish are easy pickins'. Maybe there is a fella on your block or a relative who frequents the depths for fun and profit. Why ask a skin diver? The answer should be obvious. They can see things that we can not. They learn where the fish hang out and what they are feeding on and they become very familiar with the diurnal movements of the fish. Then too, as one year blends into the next they see how an area changes, how winter storms may have destroyed or moved an offshore bar or covered up a great mussel bed.

Last year in July the Montauk surf gradually quieted down to a trickle and except for a few weakfish and scattered bluefish even bait fishing was not producing as it should. The weather became warmer and warmer and water temperatures soared into the high seventies. A long string of almost windless days put down the surf and water temperatures began to stratify.

At about this time three young skin divers that I know decided to cool off in the south side surf. Of course they brought their equipment just in case they wandered upon some stray fish.

There was no sign of feeding fish. For that matter there were no signs of fish period—feeding or not. Well, they began to swim in four to six feet of water and do you know what they found? That's right, they were quickly surrounded by bass and at times blues. Now these fish weren't schoolies either. Twenty and thirty pound fish were everywhere and as one of the yound men readied his spear gun he couldn't decide which fish to shoot. Then suddenly there was a huge shadow in front of him so he pulled the trigger and the result was a sixty pound bass, the largest bass to come out of Montauk that year to that date!

Needless to say they returned to the scene the next day and this time they literally had to push the twenty and thirty pounders out of the way in order to get a shot at other huge fish which were in the area.

Two of the three skin divers are regular Montauk surf fishermen and one of them went to the spot at night loaded down with several rods, heavy conventional outfits to handle the rocks should he stick a fish, and dozens of big fat juicy worms. He was convinced that this would be the night that he entered the hallowed halls of the fifty pound club.

Everything was right and his heart jumped rapidly as he hammered the four foot long sand spikes into the gravel and sand. Out went the baits into the dark water to find a monster. He waited.

But the fishermen didn't have long to wait, because soon one of the rods bucked and the line began to peel away. He hit the fish hard but even the tight drag set on the 36 pound test line couldn't stop this fish. Z-z-z-z-z-z the drag sang and the fisherman held on. Then there was the vibration of the line rubbing the rock. Gone!

The young fisherman shook his head in disbelief. Surely that was a fish of a life-time. It had to be to bend that telephone pole and to take line so easily from that big reel. Still standing in shock, another reel began to sing and another of his thick powerful rods doubled under considerable strain. He grabbed this rod and again he set the hook well and again the fish ran at will and again the young man stood his ground with his heels planted firmly in the sand, his back arched backward and the rod planted solidly in his groin. Z-z-z-z-z- the fish ran straight off the beach. "How do I turn this beast?" This was the thought that occupied him continuously and still the fish ran. Then the vibrations and then the fish was gone.

He kicked at the sand in disgust, but this piece of beach would do that to a fisherman because the rocks were everywhere and a guy would have to be just plain lucky to land a big cow here. But still the effort had to be made. He had to try and beat the rocks and the bass. But this time he was a loser, yet next time who knows?

Or how about the time that a skin diver popped up in front of a surfman who was casting from a jetty into an inlet. "Why are you casting out into the middle?" The answer was as always: "I've got to get out there where the fish are."

The skin diver chuckled. "The fish are moving into the inlet right under your nose. They're swimming right along the rocks and you're casting over them." Pointing toward the middle of the inlet he said: "That's a desert out there."

And so the young surf fishermen dragged his plug along the rocks and collected a few fish before the tide died. The moral of the story is to talk to your local skin diver. Ask him where he's seen fish, what the bottom looks like, and what kind or kinds of bait he has seen and where he has found it. Then try to put the information to work during the long dog days of the Long Island summer.

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Porgy Fishing

by Matt Ahern

"Porgies by the bushel and porgies by the ton." That was the summertime chant of thousands of sport fishermen, heard for many years throughout every Long Island fishing port.

Cries of "Let's go home!" echoed over the porgy beds as arm-weary fishermen racked their rods and commenced the task of cleaning their catch. Usually two hours' fishing time were enough to satisfy any fisherman.

When spawning was completed and the porgies had settled into their feeding grounds, seldom did they fail to cooperate with the eager fisherman. The supply seemed endless. The commercial catch alone totaled well over 35 million pounds yearly.

Then, beginning about eight years ago, porgies began to diminish in numbers. Each suceeding year produced fewer and fewer, and finally discouraged fishermen gave up and devoted their energies to other fish. Only a few die-hard anglers continued to fish porgies, but gone was the assurance fish could be had for the taking. The perservering fisherman had to work for the few porgies he caught. Gone were the days of super-abundance.

Gone, that is, until last year when porgies unexpectedly became available again in large numbers. Party boats, charter boats, fishermen in private craft and rented skiffs, shore fishermen—all who wanted porgies got them. Perhaps not in the fantastic numbers of previous years, but plenty for everybody. Cries of "Lets go home!" were heard once again.

The porgy is a handsome fish and when taken from the water he presents a beautiful picture; his coat of mail if a myriad of colors as he dangles from the hook in the bright sunshine. Although much smaller in size than other members of the family, such as the red snapper and sheepshead of southern waters, porgies are endowed with the same fighting qualities in proportion to size. This is why he enjoys a large following of dedicated fishermen.

Considered migratory fish, porgies leave their winter feeding grounds the deep waters of the Continental Shelf sometime in April and arrive in Long Island waters a month later. As the coastal water warms with the rapid approach of summer, they spread throughout New England's coast line where they are eagerly sought by fishermen who know them by the Indian name of scup, or scuppang.

Long Island fishermen are fortunate in having the ideal conditions sought by porgies. Bays, inlets, deep water creeks, canals, Long Island Sound, all offer choice feeding areas. But most famous of all are the Peconics. Here enormous schools of spawn-laden porgies arrive just before the weakfish.

Last summer, it mattered not where one fished in these waters. Shore bound anglers fishing from piers, jetties, and beaches fronting on Peconic caught thousands of porgies. The northern end of Shinnecock Canal was one of the hot spots, particularly the jetty at the Canal's entrance. Hundreds of porgies lingered there all summer, filling the angler's buckets. Good sized porgies were caught regularly throughout July and August and into early September.

Anglers usually divide porgies into three categories: sand porgies are those under a half pound whose main ambitions seems to be bait stealing; bay porgies which weigh about one pound; large sea porgies which will sometimes go three pounds and more. With the exception of the early run in Peconic Bay areas, most sea porgies are taken in the ocean around sunken wrecks, rock piles, and mussel beds.

When fishing in bays and other shallow areas, meduim-light spinning tackle will provide the best of sport. Use a reel matched to the rod and fill it with ten pound test monofilament. It will give the utmost in pleasure, allowing the porgy to run, gyrate, and battle every inch of the way. Don't sell the porgy short; he is a tough opponent.

Rigging for porgies is simple. For inshore fishing it is best to use the popular and efficient high-low rig. This consists of two 1/0 Sproat hooks on ten inch snells, tied tandem style, attached to the line an inch above a bank sinker of suitable weight, which will seldom be more than two ounces. To tandem tie the hooks, simply connect the snell of one hook to the center of the other. This enables both hooks to remain on the bottom where you must be to catch porgies. No leader is needed.

You can use a three-way swivel, but it isn't necessary. Remember the cardinal rule in all fishing: the less hardware, the more fish you will catch.

Your chance of hooking weakfish while bay fishing is excellent, and the smart fisherman will tie a 3/0 Sproat snelled on a three foot leader four feet above the sinker. Here is where you may employ a three-way swivel which is justified by the fact that it will overcome tangling should the tide be strong.

Porgies will take a variety of baits ranging from worms, squid, and shrimp to the various soft, hard and skimmer clams. Another good bait, though seldom used, is a small piece of sea robin. Small diamond jigs flashed near the bottom will also take fish.

Your best bait, though, is sandworms that have been cut into one and a half inch pieces. Squid also makes good bait, but there are days when porgies become choosy and often refuse to go near it. But sandworms, and clams, can always be depended upon to produce.

However, squid is an excellent bait to use on the high hook meant for weakfish. Cut it into four-inch strips, tapering it slightly at one end to resemble the general shape of a bait fish. It is also a good idea to make a one-inch cut at the end. This allows the strip to flutter in the tide, thereby making it more attractive. Run the hook through once; more than that will tend to give in an unnatural, bunched appearance.

The secret of successful porgy fishing, whether you fish the bay or ocean, is to select the right spot. Although they aren't as dificult to locate as blackfish, they do have preferred feeding grounds. If you are fishing from a party boat or charter craft, the responsibility is the skipper's. When fishing in a rented skiff or your own boat, it is up to you to find the fish.

This isn't as hard as it seems. Charts are available locally for any area you intend fishing. Get one and study it. Look for such given descriptions as wrecks, rocks, and "hard sand". Deep water mussel beds make ideal feeding grounds and will produce fish all summer long.

Many times porgies can be caught on open sand bottom as they move

about searching for new feeding areas. Often drifting will locate them. If you do get into fish when using this method, immediately lower the anchor gently! Porgies are easily spooked: a dropped tackle box, stamping of feet on deck or floorboards, any carelessness of this sort and you can say "goodbye" to the porgies.

Should you locate fish drifting, a good idea is to chum with crushed skimmers or mussels. This will draw the fish to the source of supply; they will at times even swim quite close to the surface. Double-headers are common in the chum line. A word of caution: don't chum too heavily, or you are apt to draw sea robins and other undesirable fish.

The larger sea porgies are usually associated with the deeper ocean waters. Rigging for these ocean fish is about the same as for the bay fish, but all tackle is on the heavier side. A medium weight boat rod and conventional reel filled with 100 yards of twenty pound test monofilament will do nicely. Two 2/0 or 3/0 Sproats, tied tandem as for bay fish, plus a six or eight ounce bank sinker is all you need.

At times many sea bass haunt the porgy grounds, and it will pay to use a snelled 4/0 Sproat about thirty inches above the sinker.

The best bait for this offshore fishing is the well known skimmer clam. These should be cut into half-inch wide pieces, and the hook should be run through twice, allowing a small amount to trail. It is best to leave the point of the hook protruding. If you are fishing from a party boat and aren't exactly sure what to do, don't hesitate to ask the mate or other experienced fishermen for help. They will gladly accomodate you.

Porgies are cunning when approaching the baited hook. They won't toy with it, and must be struck at once. D 't hesitate. The instant the first nip is felt, sink the hook. Should you fail to do this at the proper moment, you may be sure your hook is cleaned of all bait.

Porgies are delicious eating, but scaling presents problems to some fishermen. Some solve this by dipping the fish momentarily into scalding water. This loosens the scales somewhat, but a better method is to scale and clean your fish on the boat while they're still fresh. Cleaning up is much easier, too.

Last reports from the porgie's wintering grounds gave promise of a return to last summer's fishing. Perhaps better. Be sure to join the thousands of other fishermen who are looking forward to again battling these scrappers.

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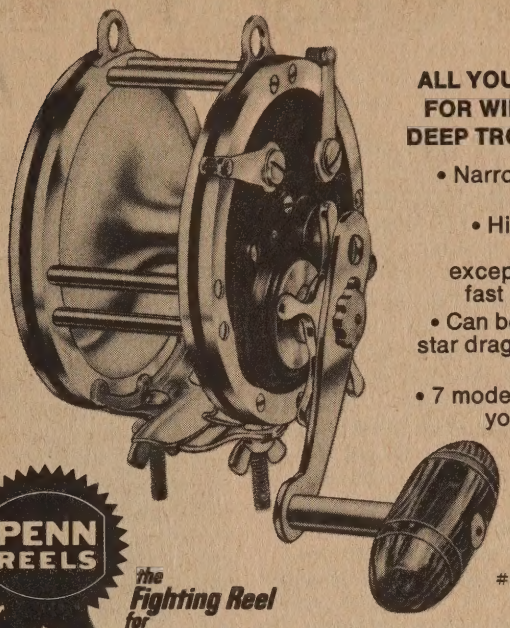

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Bonito Tactics

by Peter J. Frederiksen

One of the most overlooked fish in our ocean waters is the Atlantic bonito. Not to be confused with the chunky, soft-mouthed oceanic bonito, also known as skipjack, the Atlantic bonito is a tenuous, toothy critter custom built for light tackle fishing. Part of the reason this bonito gets slighted is that too often it is caught on heavy gear while trolling for tuna. Our Atlantic bonito generally run way under nine pounds, with the average 2 to 5 lbs., so even 20 lb. tackle is a bit much for the fish to give an account of its worth. But on light tackle, this little fellow can tear line from your reel with dogged detemination and zing.

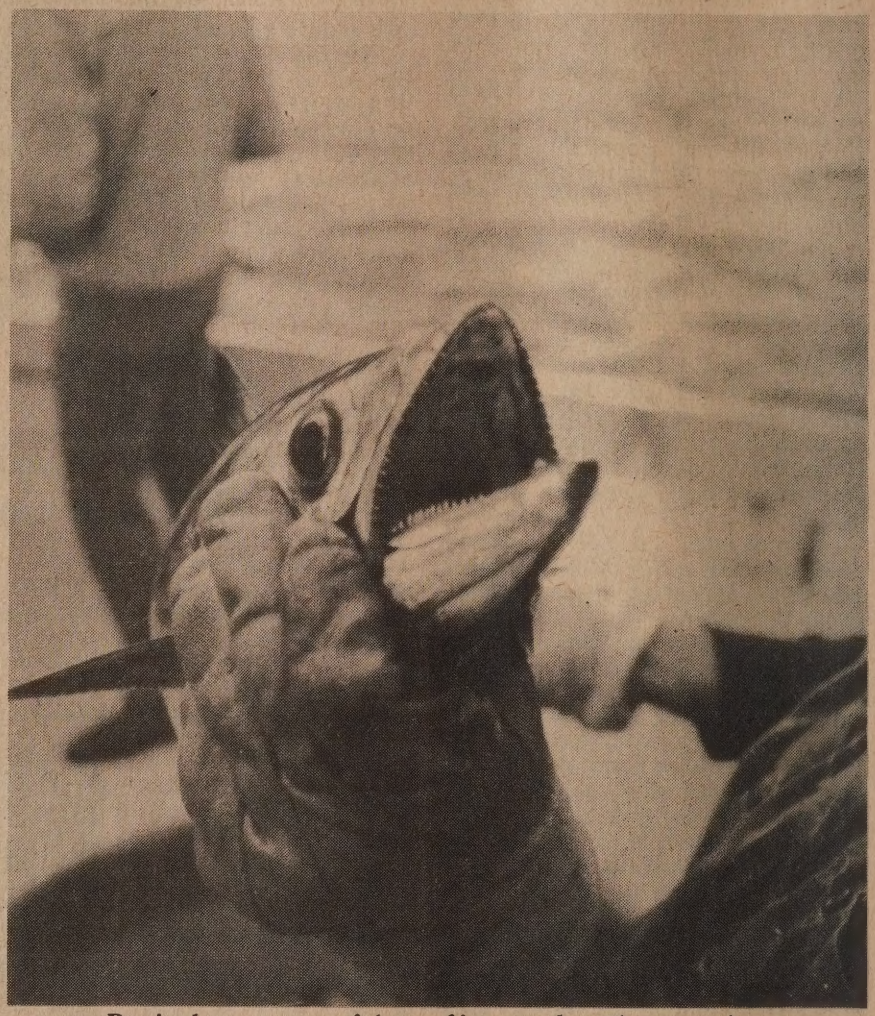
Another explanation as to why the Atlantic bonito is not paid much attention is because it prefers the same blue waters the tunas do, hence, the reason most anglers opt for the heavier tests. Rather than risk losing a tuna, many charter boats use 50 lb. class tackle and concentrate their efforts on the bluefins, accepting bonito as mere interruptions.

I promote the bonito, however, for not only is it better tasting than the bluefin, but with tuna currently in dubious supply, it gives this species a rest. And if light tackle sport is the name of your game, the bonito is worth looking into.

Bonito can be caught in a variety of ways, but first you must fine them. Since it calls the offshore waters its home, trolling is usually the best method to help you locate the fish. I generally start out with two 12 lb. and two 20 lbs. outfits, and troll at my normal tuna speed. The reason for this arrangement is that bonito frequently travel in the company of school tuna, false albacore and skipjack, and since you never know what will be attracted to your lures, it does make sense to be a little on the safe side like the charter boatmen.

Out of habit and success, I fish two very small, white Jap feathers on each of the 20 lb. rods which run off the outriggers and work in the first wake. The 12 lb. outfits are rigged with small, shiny spoons, Jap bones or cedar plugs, and undulate either right in the wash or in the second wake back.

I try to get by without using trolling weights if I can, so I always clothes-pin the 12 lb. lines to the transom. However, sometimes it is still necessary to add a few ounces of lead above the leader to keep the spoons and bones in the water. I prefer #7 or #8 stainless steel wire for my leaders, and made them my standard tuna length of 12' to 15'. I use wire as a rule, but monofilament is also suitable, and for some it is easier to handle.



Bonito have a powerful set of jaws and teeth to match.

There is no specific pattern for trolling bonito, so any warm, blue water is worth checking out. Keep your lures clean of grass and garbage, and adjust your line lengths and speed from time to time till you score. Being a school fish, you will often load your lines with pleasing confusion if you run over a hungry patch.

When you hook into bonito, it helps to slow down the boat a bit from your usual tuna trolling speed. Bonito are attracted to the white water behind the boat, but they seem to spook more easily than their bluefin cousins. I run my rig at 1700 RPM for tuna, though I do best with bonito between 1400-1500 RPM; I catch bonito at 1700 RPM, but far more at the slower speeds. In other words, do not hesitate to vary your speed to find the setting most productive for you.

Bonito also show on the surface and push water into little ripples as tuna do, so be alert for such disturbances. Occasionally, birds gather where and when bonito feed, and this is another clue to be on guard for. However, such signs could also mean tuna, skipjack and a host of other fish, for it is the wise angler who is prepared to take

advantage of such situations.

Once you have found a pod of these slender, striped gamesters, you can continue to troll with your present gear or break out the lighter spin and casting sticks. Though spinning tackle is not designed for trolling, you can do rather well with a thin rod and reel capable of holding a decent quantity of 12 lb. mono. I rarely troll with line under this size, simply because of the glaring chance of hooking into something big while in blue water.

Still another option the bonito fisherman has is to cast to surface-showing fish with Hopkins type lures and bucktails. Cast in the direction of the school and worked enticingly, they often produce fish with surprising regularity. The fly caster can also get into some torrid action when the bonito are visible. Bonito will strike at most brightly colored streamers such as Blondes and Deceivers, tied on hooks ranging 1 to 2/0.

The main thing to remember when casting artificials to bonito is to vary your retrieve. Just as a troller jockies the throttle to change the action of his lures, so must the caster do likewise if he intends to fool any fish. Sometimes you have to work a lure like mad just to get the fish to notice it, while other times you may have to fish a streamer completely dead to get any results. Experiment! Improvise! And keep trying.!

Bear in mind also that prudent boat handling is paramount when you are nearby surface-browsing fish, lest you spook them and cause the school to sound. Bonito are speedsters, so be nimble at the controls and maneuver yourself within casting range whenever possible. If you lose the school, try blind-casting in the direction the fish were last seen heading, then work the area all around the boat. When this fails to bring results, your best bet is to start trolling again.

Chumming is my favorite method for catching bonito because, fought on light spinning tackle from a dead boat, these striped beauties make bluefish of equal size and weight look pale by comparison. As with trolling, there is no set way to chum for bonito. In essence, you chum for blues and hope bonito will enter the slick. Bonito will bite on a bluefish chum hook with wire leader, although their keen sight and shyness calls for a slightly finer approach.

I prefer tiny ringed eye hooks about the size of my thumb-nail, and bury it completely in a juicy piece of cut butterfish. I use no leader at all and simply tie the hook directly to my line. Without the hindrance caused by the leader, the bait drifts effortlessly in the slick, much to the appeal of bonito. Naturally, I lose some hooks to choppers, but not nearly as many as one might think, for sometimes the bonito will feed so rapaciously that the bluefish will lay back in the slick and let the visitors do all the devouring. Such action rarely lasts long, though, since it is extremely difficult to hold the bonito's interest with chum for any great length of time. Bonito will feed furiously in a slick, but there is no way of telling how long the spree will last.

You can use regular bluefish chum tackle for bonito, but you should do away with the wire leader. If there are several people aboard your boat, it would be worth your while to let some anglers fish with wire leaders, and some without. In this fashion you are ready for both blues and bonito, and if one fish predominates, it is an easy task for the other anglers to switch over.

When chumming for bonito, I usually go with my 7' spinning rod and load my Daiwa reel with 10 lb. mono. Obviously, this is not the best tackle to use aboard a crowded boat, so let the conditions dictate your tackle choice. Actually, provided the hook is sightless in the bait and fished in a life-like manner as part of the slick, you should have no trouble catching bonito regardless of the tackle you employ.

Another productive technique I like when bonito are in the slick is to cast with metal. Here again, I avoid leaders and lean towards long, skinny, brightly finished lures to do the job. You can also try streamers in the slick, but the salt chuck will need a sinking line most of the time to bring the artificial down to the depth where the bonito are grouping.

The basic procedure when using artificials of any nature in a slick is similar to casting to surface-feeding fish: Vary the retrieve from dead to frantic. Bonito are not overly finicky, so fix your attention on working the lure till you get a strike. Avoid routine casting and reeling, for if the fish are not affected by such lure or streamer movement you get nothing but exercise. Instead, cast, let the lure sink, reel it fast, reel it slow, make it work like it's trying to flee from the slick. And keep working at it because it is the only way you will consistently catch these fish with artificials.

Bonito are delicately-fleshed fish and utmost care must be exercised to preserve their excellent eating qualities. I keep my bonito in a separate iced cooler so they do not get knocked around in the fish box. In addition, bonito should not be gutted or filleted until you are ready to freeze or eat them, since too much air, salt or fresh water will rapidly deteriorate the bonito's flavor. Cleaning bonito at home is no problem either, because it sports the smallest entrails of any fish in our area.

Ifillet my bonito and prefer to cook them the day they are caught. They will hold up in a freezer, but, like most fish, simply taste best when they are new. A fillet garnished with a strip of bacon, salt, butter and pepper, wrapped in aluminum foil and cooked over a white-hot hibachi grill is guaranteed to flood your mouth with flavor!

When the water warms in tune with the upcoming hot summer and fall days, think bonito. They will give you some light tackle sizzles and fine eating as a dividend.

These bonito lures are successful producers. Chum hooks must be small and well-hidden in the bait.

A Farewell to Old Glory

by Ed Haring

It was Father's day, Sunday June 15, my nephew, his twin sons and I, strolled along Emmons Avenue in Sheepshead Bay. As on any warm Sunday the street was bustling with fishermen, sightseers and those hoping to find a bargain on fresh caught fish. We walked out on one of the piers to let the five year olds get a better look at the trim party boats returning to their slips. At the next pier the crew was busily hosing down the decks and making ready for the second trip of the day for the Glory. When the blues are hitting most of the fleet makes two junkets a day.

Don remarked that he had fished from the Glory as a boy. So had I. During those years I saw many boats come and go, but each year the Glory was there ready to carry her fares to where the action was. We speculated on how long she had been around and headed for a good home cooked dinner, little realizing we had looked at this Grand Old Lady of the Bay for the last time. The next morning the radio commentator announced that the Glory had run aground off Seabright, N.J. The pounding surf and the cruel rocks combined forces to reduce her to a complete and hopeless wreck. Before giving up to the elements she saw to it that all the passengers and crew made it safely to the rocks making up the seawall. The only injury was to Captain O'Leary who suffered a cracked vertibrae.

Since then a little research revealed that the Glory was built during the Gay Nineties—1896 in fact. Originally she was a steam racing yacht. Owned by a millionaire, such notables as Diamond Jim Brady, the Jersey Lily, Lillian Russell and other famed characters of that era could well have paced her decks. At the end of World War I her wealthy owner tired of her and in 1922 she was sold and converted into a fishing boat. In 1923 a second hull bas built around the original and the following year a diesel engine was installed replacing the 26 year old steam engine Believe it or not that diesel drove her through all kinds of seas until that fateful morning of June 16, 1975. I can not but wonder at how many of today's Space Age engines and hulls are going to approach these records.

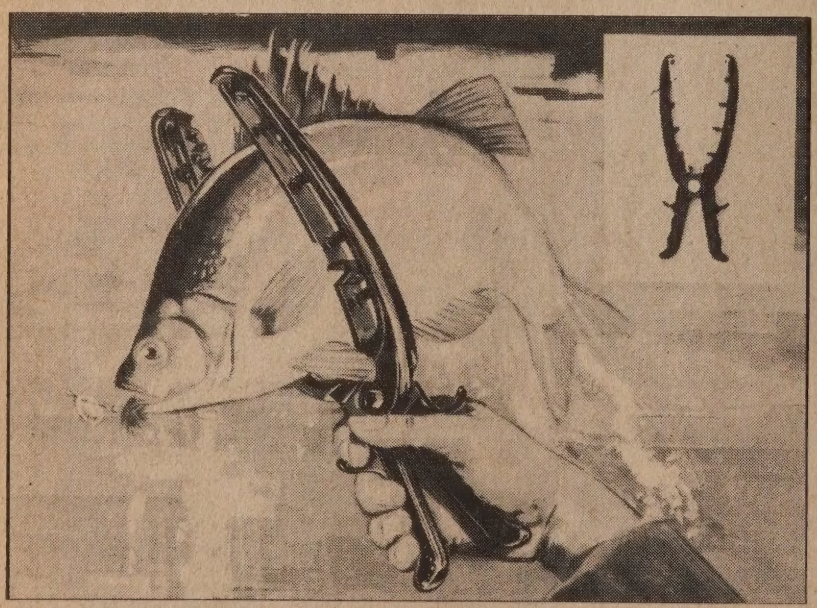
The Glory began her career as a fishing boat under the command of Captain Jacob Martin. As a teenager in the 1930's I first became familiar with the Bay and its boats. At that time I believe the Martin family had three boats, the Glory, Giralda and Evelyn. As competition there were other converted luxury yachts and sub chasers. Names like Sylph, Shamrock, Effort and Elmar should rekindle memories of older readers. Those were the days of overnight trips to Atlantic City for those big blue-black humped back sea bass. The fare was $5 for those trips and $2 for shorter runs.

If business was slow and you had less, you sailed anyway and dragged home burlap bags of fish for the neighbors. They did not wrinkle their noses and ask if they were cleaned, there was a full fledged depression and any food was welcome.

It was the custom in those hectic days for the boat making the fastest run to haul a broom to its masthead. Needless to say, more often than not, the Glory was accorded this honor.

There is a bit of irony in the Glory's demise. When her keel was layed Sonar, Radar, radio and all modern electronic gear were just figaments in the minds of Jules Verne and other science-fiction writers of the day. Yet the captain claims that his radar showed he was well offshore about 1 AM that foggy morning when the saga of one of the oldest fishing vessels in this country was concluded.

As one who fished from her heaving decks, covered with scales, all I can say is farewell Glory—Thanks for the memories.



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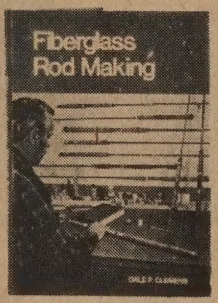

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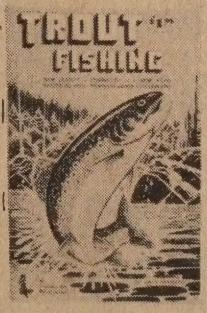

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Buddy Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported excellent porgy fishing off Gardiners Island and Montauk Lighthouse. Porgies to 3 pounds 13½ oz. and sea bass to 4 lbs. High Hook during the week for 1 man was over 200 porgies. Fishing is fun for the ladies too—Miss Fay Davis of Montauk was out twice this week and took 4 bushel baskets of porgies by herself.

Capt. Murray Homelsky of the charterboat **Cherokee** reports the most fantastic blue fishing he has enjoyed in a long time. There is good tuna fishing off shore for fish of 50 lbs. and up.

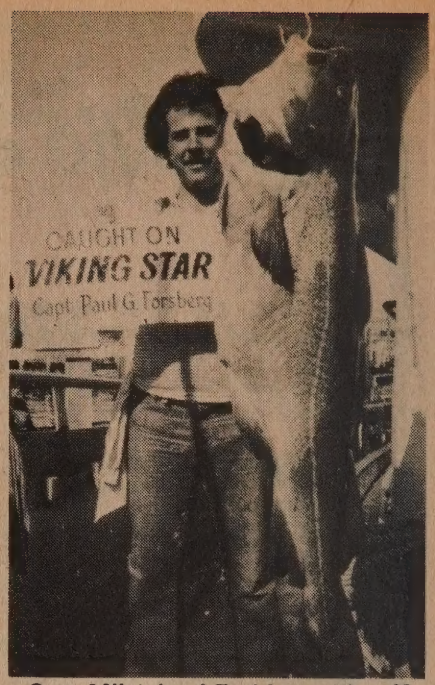
Johnny Keller of the **Lake Montauk Marina** told us of excellent fluke fishing in the North Rips and on the south side off the radar bolls in 50 to 60 feet of water. The fish are running 95 percent and better keepers with a doormat of 9 lbs. taken by Al Borker of New Jersey. The porgy bonanza continues east of Great Eastern Rock and on the south side off Caswells and the radar station. Bluefish still being bailed at the Submarine buoy and Midway buoy by trollers and diamond jiggers.

The charterboat **Bronco** had an excellent day offshore Wednesday southeast of Block Island next to the draggers in 160-200 feet of water. Tom Applegate took a 654 lb. giant tuna and his son took a 159 giant, both on live whiting in a chum slick. Twelve school tuna in the 25 pound class were also taken jigging butterfish jigs. Johnny said that there has been very few bass around.

Tuma's Tackle Shop confirmed the bluefishing blitz at the Submarine buoy. The charterboats are taking 40-50 and more bluefish 5-12 pounds for a half day trip. School tuna are being taken offshore and a few white marlin came into Montauk over the weekend. Sharks are still excellent, but striped bass are very picky. The **Captain Willie** has been doing an excellent job with the fluke in the North Rips in the afternoon trips.

L.I.F. Bottom Line columnist **Scott Simons** spent a couple of days at Montauk during the week and did a number on bluefish, porgies and fluke. Diamond jigging at the Midway buoy is producing a few blues, but the Submarine buoy has all the bluefish you want. Fishing for no more than 2 hours at a time Scott and brother-in-Law Jimmy Reddy took 24, 32, 30, and 31 bluefish 5-13½ pounds on diamond jigs. Two green bonito of 6 and 5 lbs. also took the jigs. Porgies are large and plentiful off Ditch Plains, Caswells, and Great Eastern. The fluke fishing has finally peaked in the North and Midway Rips with very very few throwbacks. On Sunday afternoon Scott ran his Grady White Overnighter to the outer Frisbee Grounds and took over 50 humpback seabass on clams in a few hours.

Gunther Zaenglein called to tell us that he went out on a charter aboard the **Venture II** 40 to 50 miles northeast of Montauk in 180 feet of water on Friday. Gunther, Charles Elson and William Harback fished and took 26 bluefin tuna between 25 and 80 pounds trolling feathers, plastic squid and cedar plugs on the surface. They also spotted two large sunfish and an 8 to 10 foot hammerhead shark on top.



Gary Milstein of Fort Lee with a 48 lb. pool winning cod caught at Coxes Ledge aboard the Viking Star.

The fifty pound striped bass taken on the big Danny trolling plug last week, has reported by Al Urban, was caught by Dr. James Cassaro of Massapequa in the late afternoon, in 30 feet of water off the point.

Capt. Ronnie Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie II** with a party of two on Saturday and Sunday caught 320 lbs. of seabass up to 3¾ lbs. and 185 lbs. of porgies and 11 bluefish up to 12 pounds fishing the southside of outer Frisbee.

The **Peconic Queen II** is having very good cod fishing at Coxes Ledge. The cod are running 12 lbs. and up. The night blue fishing from Tuesday to Saturday has been great. The Cartwright Grounds have blues to 10 and 12 lbs.

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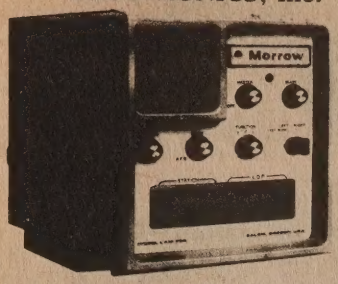

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Fishing Station reported that fishing is generally good. Boats are averaging a bushel or more of porgies a day right in front of the station or off Gardiners Island with an ocassional fluke mixed in. Small bluefish 1 to 2 lbs. and an occcasional 5 pound weakfish are being taken on small poppers in the late evening and early morning hours.

SAG HARBOR

Barbara at **Noyac Marina** reported good fishing for porgies, weakfish and kingfish off to a good start. On Sunday Bill Fales senior and junior and friend Paul Panick went to buoy 16—not expecting weakfish, they didn't bring a net. They managed to land 8 nice weakfish regardless, one bluefish, one large kingfish and 40 porgies on squid bait fished on the bottom.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark boats report steady porgy fishing all week. They are ¼ to 1 lb. The weaks were pretty good 'till Friday when the lack of wind prevented proper drifting conditions. Until then they had averaged 70-80 weaks each day of 2-2½ lbs. Kingfish have been making a comeback with total catch of about 20 or more each day.

HAMPTON BAYS

Tony's Fishing Station reports that the fluke are very good and getting larger in size between buoys 20 and 21 and around Shinnecock Inlet. Sand eels, spearing and killies all produce on incoming water. There are still plenty of big, fat flounder in the Deep Hole around buoy 20, 21, and 22. Lots of small snappers all over the bay.

MORICHES BAY

The **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** reports good fluke action with some boats taking a dozen keepers, but there is still an abundance of 13½ inch fluke around. Best area is drifting from the Elbow to buoy 39 with sand eels and squid. Medium sized sea bass are starting to show in the Elbow with one boat taking 15 on Sunday. Blueclaw crabs are still small but improving and crabbing should be good in about 2 weeks.

Al at the **Highway Fishing Station** reported slow fishing in the hot weather. Fluke are abundant around buoy 36 when there is enough wind or current for decent drifting. A few school bass were taken Monday morning trolling umbrella rigs at buoy 38 in the early AM hours. Al said that fishing has been very quiet but should pick up now that the heat waves has unwaved.

Larry Dallaire of **L. & M. Marine** reported small fluke all over the place from the inlet to buoys 36-39. Larry said that you have to catch ten fish for every keeper, but boats are averaging about 5 good fluke a day.

Angler Burt Rabinowitz of Lake Grove on the **Queen B** hooked and landed a 50 lb. white marlin last Wednesday on 20 lb. test line on a flounder rod, trolling red and white feathers 4 miles off the beach. The fish was weighed in at **Hi-Way Fishing Station.**

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Keenan's Fishing Station** reports the fluking is still good at buoys 28 and 30 on sand eels and fluke spinner rigs on incoming tide. Please return small fish. Keepers are up to 4 lbs., with a 50-50 keeper ratio. Lots of crabs from buoy 17 up to the bridge in nets and traps. Good snapper action at buoy 19 and right off the creek mouthes. Harbor blues have slacked off a bit, but are still worth a try in morning hours before boat traffic starts with squid tipped Hopkins.

WEST SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station tells us that Gary Ravielli and Roy Gold proved that there was still fish in the bay by nailing over 30 weaks and 10 blues in less than 3 hours on sand worms one

Marty and Joan Walker of Flushing with their catch of 25 weakfish and 15 porgies caught in Peconic Bay. Photo courtesy of Bradley's Fishing Station.

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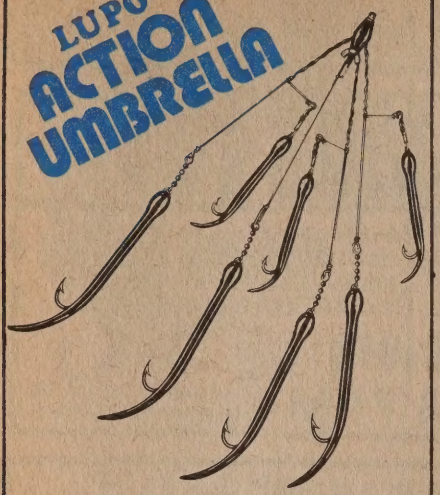

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mile south of Brown's River. They also employed squid tipped shrimp jigs, all on the change of tide. These were 3 pound class fish. Also, there is porgy action south of Blue Point on clam baits, using chum, the porgies going to 2 pounds. The fluking is fair with a lot of midgets. Fish for the fluke on any running tide, with sand eels working best.

J & R Sports Center tells of weaks at the mouth of Great River and the mouth of Brown's River, fish going up to 4 pounds. The hottest bait is the yellow 3/8 oz. Mister Twister, which is about 6 inches long. Best time is in the morning when there is little or no boat traffic. Blues are off Great River also, but you must watch for the schools—watch for birds. The choppers will take anything you throw at them one hot lure is the Minnoe Lure Co's Veenee. Small seabass and blacks between buoys 4 and 5 on clam baits. Fluke at the Heckshire flats are so-so with tons of midgets.

Marty at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports fishing has been good all week and all of the following is in the area south west of the Brown's River jetty about a mile and buoys 28 and 29 on all tides. Weakfish on squid and spearing on hi-lo rigs. Kingfish are hitting the spearing best. Good numbers of fluke are being caught also on spearing but be sure to return to the water those under 14 inches. Snappers are increasing in size and number and gigantic crabs are waiting for you off of all the piers and docks and of course from boats with either traps or nets for top swimmers. The fishing slowed a bit on the weekend due to the extreme heat and also the fact that a lot of boats came in early because of this heat.

CAPTREE

Captain George Tweedy of the **Captain Scotty** said that bluefishing has been very good at night but almost non existant during the day. On Tuesday night ten men took over 300 fish and on most nights between 200 and 300 blues are taken. The days were tough during the week and you had to run 3½ hours to Seabright New Jersey to find fish. The **Captain Scotty** will now sail during the day to the local wrecks where there is a lot of sea bass and large fluke until the day time bluefishing picks up. She will still sail for blues at night. See ad for further details.

Capt. Neil of the **Lady Ann** called to say that the bluefishing is better than it has been but it is not as good as it could be. Friday night saw 500 choppers come over the rail, 150 on Saturday and 90 on Saturday night, an even dozen on Sunday. Nights in general are very good with an occasional tough night. Seabright is being fished days, and local waters after the sun goes down.

The **Jib V and VI** are fluke fishing mostly in the bay, where the keepers are more numerous. Some drifts have been done in the inlet area. The fluke are increasing in size and quantity.

The Babylon Tuna Club striper king, Joe Giallanzo of Lindenhurst shown here with 2 stripers 33 and 30 lbs. These stripers were caught with dead trolled eels in the Great South Bay. Photo courtesy of Augies Bait and Tackle.

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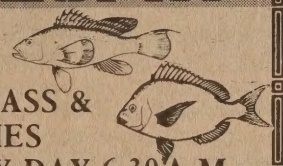

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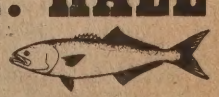

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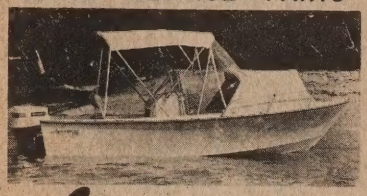

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OAK BEACH

Hayes at **The Store** reports a lot of fluke in the inlet and in the back, but of course piles of short fish in with the keepers, so return the short fish. No bass news. Weakfishing good at the Sore Thumb on white Tri-Fin Whiptails, also at the Bar at mid-inlet, east of the thumb. Snappers and blue claw crabs are abundant. Try bluefishing from the mouth of the inlet to the bridge at the flood. Lots of bonito offshore, not even a ¼ mile off the beach, on red and white feathers.

BABYLON

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** says that the fluking is fair with sand eel and squid combo baits working best, all tides. A good number of keepers are mixed in with the babies. Crabbing is very good in the flats, and off the piers. Try Dickerson's Channel and Snake Hill Channel for the fluke and bay blues. Weakfish should be tried for at the bridge with sand worms and a hot scoop is scooping blue claws in all of the flats.

Joe at **Bergen Point Fishing Station** reports lots of bonito being trolled between the pound nets and the inlet, mostly on feathers. Fluking is only so-so with a lot of short fish around. Lots of crabs and snappers, with crabs plentiful at the pilings, docks, and in the bay at night with nets.

LINDENHURST

Jack at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** tells us that tuna is the big thing now, mainly in 60 feet of water. These are all footballs, twelve-20 pounds and they are mainly heading cedar jigs and feathers. Mucho bonito one mile east of the pound nets just a stones throw off the beach with red and white feathers and black and white feathers. Sharking is very good in 90 feet of water with a couple of these man eaters brought in on Saturday. There is good fluking in the inlet with the better size fish on the east bar on sand eels at all tides, fish going to 5 pounds. Large schools of weakfish to 4 pounds in the inlet area (watch for birds) as these are roaming schools. Try umbrellas. Now hear this—Flounders may be had in good quantity off the Sore Thumb to 1½ pounds on blood worms. Loads of small blues off the lighthouse on the inside with bunker chum and butterfish bait. The bay is loaded with blueclaws. Try drifting over the flats with a net or try the docks.

AMITYVILLE

Jonas Bait and Tackle reports plenty of fluke with a few keepers mixed in all over the bay and inlet on sand eels primarily. The Copaigue Hole shoujld be tried for weaks with sand worms. Lots of snappers and blue claw crabs locally. Bill Sosnicki Jr. of Copaigue on July 27, nailed a 25 pound striper on a Rebel Swimmer. This was Bill's first.

George Combs Bait and Tackle informs us that George Layton and Tim O'Leary and Capt. Bill Spraul fished off Fire Island 165 degrees, 85

Stan Bigora with this 25 lb. striper he caught on live bunker at buoy 36. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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feet on Sunday and had a big mixed bag of tuna, blues and bonito. Weakfish are inside Fire Island inlet, and of nice size, as are small blues. There is excellent crabbing and snappers off all town docks and on the flats. Try for weakfish at Amity cut and East-West Channel, fish up to 4 pounds.

SEAFORD

Pop's Fishing Station tells us that 4 Corners and the State Channel are your best bet for keeper fluke, but be sure to return the small ones. Best baits are killies and squid or sand eels on all tides. Snappers seem to be all over the place, as are the crabs which are best going towards Massapequa and West Island.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports lots of mixed size fluke on sand eels, squid and killies, some keepers going to 6 pounds. Try west of the Wantagh draw bridge and also drifting Haunts Creek. Try sand worms fished into the bridge on the bottom for weakfish.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** advises that you try the top of the tide for weakfish on sand worms fished into the last Meadowbrook bridge on a long leader, 3 feet off the bottom. One of his skiffs did this and bagged 11 weaks from 4-6½ pounds. Fluking continues its same pace with short fish outnumbering keepers 5 to 1. On Wednesday Herb Belsky nailed a 50 lb. tuna and a 10 lb. Dolphin in 130 degrees out of the inlet, in 110 feet of water on his boat Champagne.

On Saturday Stu Miller, L.I.F's hot shot Advertising Manager bagged 1 3½ lb. fluke on 4 sand eels ganged together on his custom made fluke rig. This was right off the barge in Jones Inlet about 50 feet offshore. 4 midgets were returned as were 2 huge sundials.

Ralph Pavone with a 75 lb. tuna. Photo courtesy of Island Marine Taxidermy.

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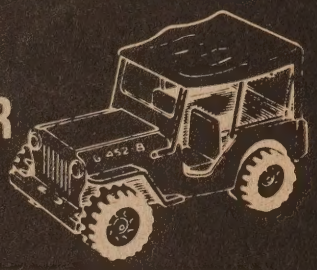

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Lindrath of the **Capt. Al** said the blues were in solid off Sea Bright. These fish go from 3 to 10 lbs. As good as the fishing is during the day it is even better at night.

Capt. Grimley of the **Aloma** reports he is fishing for sea bass and porgies off Fire Island. At present sea bass makes up most of the action with some porgies and an ocassional fluke. The fluke are a bonus fish and catches are from 2 or 3 to 25 fish for the boat. They had one of 11½ lbs. recently but most are from 2-6 lbs.

The **Aloma II**, according to Capt. Grimley, is picking up 4 or 5 nice size keeper fluke per man. During the week they fished for these big fluke on the outside reefs. A 12½ lb. fluke was the largest of the past week.

The **Starstream II** reports a pretty fair pick of 2-4 lb. blues. These were chummed and jigged off the Highlands. This is only an hour and five minutes away for the fast and comfortable **Starstream II**. Night fishing is a little better.

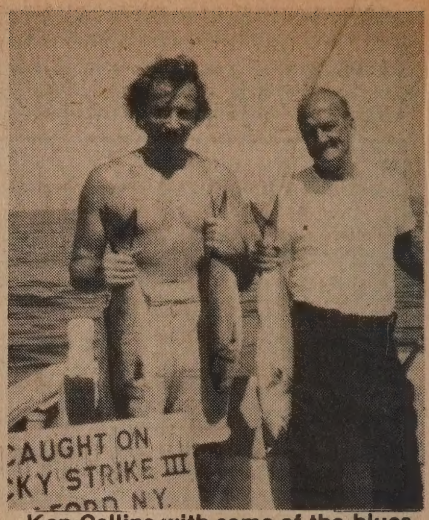
Capt. Johnny A of the **Miss Freeport** reports excellent fluke fishing by the Mc Allister grounds. There were quite a few doormat fluke of 6 to 8 lbs. caught. On Saturday, Al Marino of Brooklyn had one of 10 lbs. while on Sunday Jim Gould beat him with one 10¾ lbs.

Capt. Marty of the **Empire Fleet** said the blue fishing was good until Saturday. On Sunday they found it tougher to get fish. The fish were found about 2 miles east of the NC buoy.

The **Capt. Hall** reports very good blue fishing. Wednesday and Thursday they jigged at Seventeen Fathoms and came home with plenty of blues. Saturday and Sunday the action moved to Sea Bright and continued good. The blues were mostly around 4 pounds.

The Poop Deck Dock called to inform us that another outsized fluke was landed on the **Capt. Lou II**, this one an 11 pounder taken on Wednesday by Mike Sibrizzi of New York City. Credit must also be given to Capt. Lou DiBlasio, who put this lucky angler over the fish.

Roy at **Mako Marina** reported the results of Saturday's Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament. First place went to George Maisch of Freeport, of the Atlantic Anglers, with a 416 lb. Tiger shark. Second place went to Jane Krakauer, Freeport, also a member of Atlantic Anglers, with a 324 lb. tiger. 3rd place went to East Rockaway's Charlie Berwin with a 316 lb. Tiger. First prize was 1082 dollars, second prize was $451 and 3rd prize was $270. Over 80 boats were entered in the tourny. A couple of big fish were brought in after the tournament ended



Ken Collins with some of the blues caught aboard the Lucky Strike III out of Seaford.

and are well worthy of mention. Hans Oxen of Freeport had a 501 lb. Tiger and John Burnes of Island Park brought in a 486 lb. Tiger. On Sunday Howie Snyder of Long Beach had a 720 lb. Tiger shark. Anybody for a swim?. The secret seems to be fish the 60 foot line DEEP.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports lots of small fluke in all the local waters with his skiffs bringing back anywhere from 5 to 9 keepers per trip. The winner of the July big fluke contest was Joe Reed of Bellrose witha a 4 lb. 8 oz. fluke, winning the monthly prize of 26 dollars. Be sure to get in on the pool for August. occasional small blues are hitting fluke rigs.

Hudson Point Fishing Station reports that on Saturday, 30 blues to 9 pounds and some spanish speaking mackerel were trolled aboard Barny Palmeri's Green H while trolling south west of the inlet in 85 feet of water. Another angler from Hudson Point boated 20 bluefish on Thursday in 40

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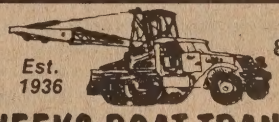
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Joel Feinstein of Jericho with a 48 lb. tuna caught on the Sandbar Mike of Amityville off of Montauk.

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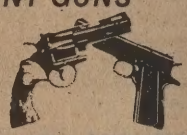

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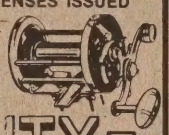

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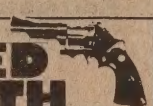

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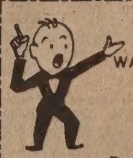

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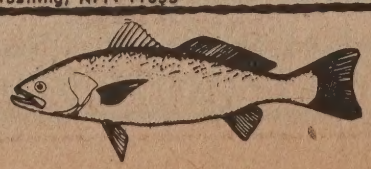

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feet of water on red and black Victoria umbrellas. Captain Tony Maltese of the charterboat **Rocc.** is consistently bringing in 6-7 striped bass per day (or night) with chum, fish in the 10 pound class.

Captain Sy Karlin of the charterboat **Blue Fin** of the **Freeport boatmans association** reported excellent bluefishing saturday afternoon while chumming. His passengers filled the box with 3-5 pound blues and some larger. The pool fish went 12 pounds and also a 25 pound tuna was chummed by Arthur Hirschberg of New York City on 15 lb. test line.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Art White of the **Angler II** said the good blue fishing started on Thursday and has continued through the weekend. High hook on Friday was 30 lbs. Friday and Saturday night average was around 20 per man. Sunday saw smaller blues of around 4 lbs. Some bonita has been in every catch. The **Angler II** has been fishing the Cholera Banks.

Frank at **Long Island Sea Clam** had a couple of huge tiger sharks brought in to be weighed. One on Sunday was so big that his 600 lb. scale could not weigh it. On Wednesday, George Thaden on Werner Newmann's boat fought a tiger shark for over two hours. When they weighed the gutted fish it was 540 lbs. Frank said the bluefishing was down locally and the party boats have had to hunt for them all the way to Jersey. The fluke fishing is great on the outside. Keepers are now one for every two compared to one for every four or five as in the past.

Ed's Fishing Station reports Alice Reck of Island Park fishing with her husband Mike on their own boat took a 12 lb. fluke at the mouth of the inlet. Fluke fishing has improved. The quantity caught has not increased but the amount of keepers has. These are in Reynolds Channel to Jones Inlet particularly buoys 4, 5 and 13. There are plenty of snappers around the Point Lookout Marina and buoys 16, 18 and 19 going towards Long Beach. There are also sea bass and porgies here also. Blues are fairly close but spotty. You must chum them.

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook reports the striped bass fishing is slow. Blue fish have been pretty good all week in the buoy 4 area of Debs Inlet. These are 2-6 lb. fish. Fluke continue in good quantity and keepers are on the increase.

Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** said the fluke are now being picked up on hard bottom. These are bigger fish of up to 8 lbs. with many of 5-7 lbs. The

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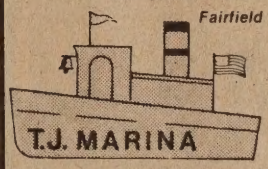

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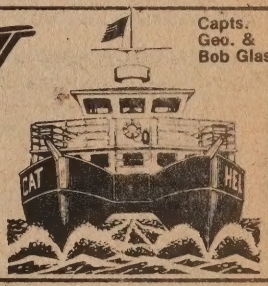

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Tin Can Grounds and south of Debs Inlet were most productive. Over the weekend Frank Herkowitz was high hook with nine fluke one of which was 7¼ lbs., but Joe Burke took the pool with his eight pounder. They are also getting some sea bass with these fluke.

' capt. Clem said the skiffs going out of the **Commodore Fishing Station** are picking up plenty of snappers as they are all over the bay. Sand porgies are also in good quantity. For a patient and knowledgeable angler the deep hole east of the Long Beach Bridge has weakfish of 2-4 lbs. They are being taken on worms mostly and some on squid. A few are being enticed by a shrimp lure.

Captain Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** called to inform us that shark and almost all fishing was in a slump for the weekend due to all the heat. Ronnie estimated that no more than 10 sharks were taken between Sandy Hook and Fire Island over the past weekend, mainly due to high temperature readings of 82.5 degrees on Ronnie's Dytek Sea Temperature Recorder. Ronnie says that 69-75 degree water is ideal for the sharks. Sharking during the week was much better. Lots of small bonito around. The Atlantic Beach Canyon Tournament held Saturday and Sunday

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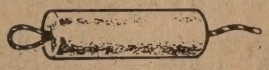

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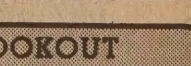

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HUDSON PARK, NEW ROCHELLE

resulted in the following. The yellow fin tuna category was taken by Marty Feur of Cedarhurst with a 46½ pounder. Dolphin was won by Jerry Trussel of Oceanside with a 26 pounder. White marlin was won by Tony Seniscalchi with a 47 lb. fish and Tony also took the Tile fish category with a beauty of 39 lbs. 15 oz. Blue shark category was taken by Chris Vitucci of Brooklyn with a 98½ pounder.

Capt. Jack McShane of the charter-boat **Shearwater** called to tell us that he chummed for 10 hours on Sunday, southeast of Jones Inlet in 130 feet of water and had 3 run-offs, but boated zip. Sunfish and turtles were sighted. Improved weather should improve the offshore scene. Last Monday the **Shearwater** took an 80 lb. Tiger shark, an 18 lb. dolphin and 2 small brown sharks. The dolphin will be mounted by Island Marine Taxidermy.

Bill Beckman at **Beckman's Tackle** in Lynbrook called to tell of the several fishermen who came in to get more tackle and rushed out to get in on the good weak fishing between buoy 4 and Atlantic Beach. These 3-7 pound weaks are being taken on a Bingle Flex-Tail on a 4 foot leader with a 2 oz. drail and drifted along. The Bingle Boa Jr. or a coat hanger rig with #4 Clark spoons are also used. Some blues are mixed with these weaks.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Plenty of fluke in the inlet and channels. On Friday an 11 lb. fluke at the inlet on squid and sand eel by an unknown angler was caught. John Koehler on his boat **Poker Chip** took a catch that was typical of what is availab.e Early Sunday morning he trolled some small striped bass at the Tin Can Grounds. Moving to Rockaways Playland in about 35-85 feet of water he had fluke, blues and weakfish. Offshore school tuna are being trolled between the NC buoy and the old experimental buoys.

JAMAICA BAY

Snappers are the big thing right now according to John Brando at the **Crossbay Rod and Gun Shop**. Both the North and South Channel bridges are loaded with them. Striped bass fishing has slowed along with the blacks and weakfish. The fluke are quite active at the Marine Parkway bridge and Rockaway Point.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Ranger V** reports they are going strictly for blues night and day. The catches are from 6-20 blues of 3-5 lbs. Daytime bluefishing is at Shrewsbury or the Atlantic Highlands. Nightime fishing is at 17 Fathoms or Three Sisters.

Capt. Johnny Kull of the **Jonny K II** took out 10 men from Nytelco headed by Tom Hayes from Yonkers. They took 64 blues while chumming. On Sunday, the Brooklyn Rifle and revolver club went out and took 40 blues jigging. They got tired and Capt. Kull chummed. They got Zilch so it was back to jigging to wind up with a total of 73 blues. Fellows- you might be paying for the trip, but it pays to listen to the captain if you want fish.

On Saturday, the **Babe** took out Phil Rosen and Co. and Sunday saw Allan Goldberg and Co. on board. They chummed off Sea Bright and wound up with blues in the 4 lb. class with a few of 12 and 13 lbs. Some fluke of 5 and 6 lbs. were also caught.

Capt. Kenny said the **Big Mohhwk II** has done very well on blues both day and night. The blues are mostly 3 or 4 lbs. On Saturday, Larry Carnazzerra fishing with the Board of Education group, caught a monster blue of 17½ lbs. The **Big Mohawk II** is a blue

fishing at the Highlands and Sea Bright. The afternoon fluke trips are holding up well. The sizes go as high as 6 or 7 lbs. in the Ambrose Channel. The Keepers are more than half.

Blue fish are off the Jersey coast at Sea Bright and Highlands according to **Stella Maris Tackle.** Fluke are all over at the Rockaways, Ambrose Channel, Coney Island and Manhattan Beach. A few striped bass and blues have been trolled inshore.

Mike's Bait and Tackle reports very good bluefishing on Sunday night. Up until that time it was fair fishing for blues off Scotland and the Highlands. Fluke have been hitting most baits on both the red and black sides of the Ambrose Channel. The 3-5 lb. bluefish have been hitting the A-27 jig mostly. Small porgies of ¼ to 1¼ lbs. are around.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports the only black action on striped bass worth reporting is at Penny beach. They go from a few shorts to 8 lbs. all taken on worms. The Fort Wadsworth to Tottenville beach area have 4-6 inch snappers and ¾ to 2 lb snapper blues. Both of these fish are hitting spearing or sand eels with the bigger fish prefering sand eels. Bigger blues of 9-12 lbs. are at South Beach and Berger Avenue storm sewers taking chunk bait. Great Kills Harbor has small snappers. The crabbers using scoop nets there are doing better than the traps. Lemon Creek has smaller

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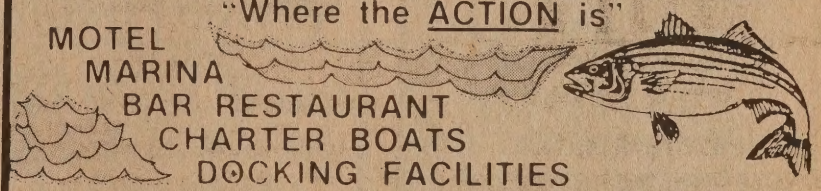

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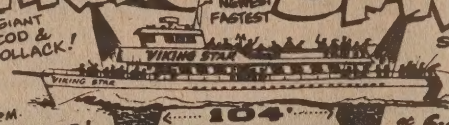

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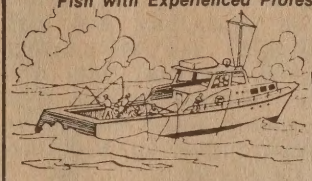

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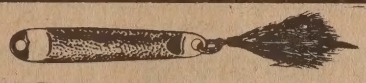

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crabs. Weakfish of 3-5 lbs are taking worms at the New Dorp Lane storm sewer. Sand Porgies and lafayettes are at Great Kills Jetty. The boats are trolling 3-5 pound blues and weaks to 8 lbs. from Mount Loretta to Tottenville. Worm drifting for striped bass is red hot at the Veranzano bridge bell buoy to the #21 can. Trolling there was a slow pick for bass but nightime blues are good. **J & L Sports**, Henry's other shop reports good weakfishing in the Chapel Hill Channel. Try trolling the green Bingle Banana.

Jerry De Sapio and Gene Light with 5 bass from 19 to 32½ lbs. Photo courtesy of Mako Marina.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

The **Mighty Mouse** had the Blue Anglers Fishing Club out on Saturday. They fished north of Gardiners Island and brought in over 700 lbs. of porgies. Sunday was not too good.

Art White's Bait Shop reports the Plum Gut still has a few striped bass. The trollers are working surge tubes between Old Silas Rock and Gull Island. Weakfish are still taking worms at the Greenport jetty and Louie's Beach. Porgies continue good east of Gardiners Island and a few fluke are being picked up. Blue fish are still to come in solid.

The **Wilheric** is doing a fantastic job on catching porgies.

SOUTHOLD

Very good porgy fishing says **Port of Egypt Fishing Station**. These fish are ¾ to 1 lb. Buoys 12 and 17 along with the Green Lawn area are best. Some weakfish have been caught off the painted rock near buoy 11.

NEW SUFFOLK

Continued good porgy and weak fishing at Rose Grove according to Phil at **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station**. Kingfish are taking worms at Rose Grove. Buoy 25 also has good porgy fishing. Snappers are in abundance at Nassau Point using spearing.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Center in Aquebogue said the porgy fishing is very good at Rose Grove. Quite a few weaks are also being taken from there. Both species are hitting equally well on sand worms. The Mattituck Inlet has big blue fish of 14 lbs. taking bunker bait on the bottom.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dick's Sporting Goods in Miller Place said the blues have finally bit the area. He and his wife trolled a 5 oz. red Tri-Fin and had 18 blues from 2½ to 10 lbs. His wife had an 8 lb. weakfish. These fish are deep so use wire or lead core line.

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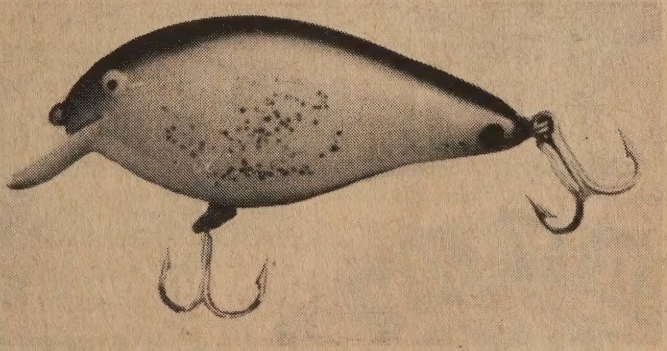

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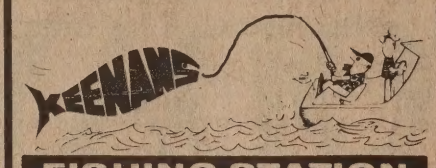

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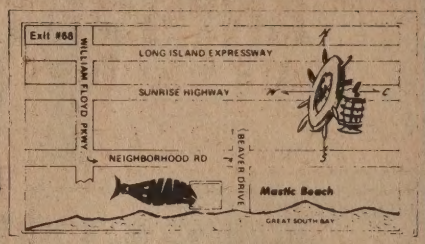

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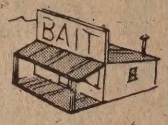

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PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. Fischer of the **Betty W** said the porgies came in strong on the bottom this past week. The first of the open boat bluefishing at night was a great success. Fourteen men had over 100 blues to 10 lbs. Capt. John Fischer informs us that due to the death of his mother he will not sail until Thursday August 7.

Fantastic blue fishing reports **Caraftis Fishing Station.** They are in the harbor near the mooring area chasing the small schools of bunker. The fish are 9-15 lbs. On the outside between the inlet and Stratford Shoals the chummers are doing a bang up job on these choppers. Porgies are hitting only on the incoming tide in 30 feet of water. These fish only go to 2 lbs. and you can expect 25 to 50 percent per boat. OldField Point and Cranes Neck are best spots.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Lou Zarrella a junior L.I.F. staff member fished off the Stony Brook docks and beaches this past week along with his friend Eddie Campanella. They caught loads of snappers using Hopkins and Kastmaster lures. At slack tide, Louis used a few small snappers to bottom fish off the bulkhead and wound up with an oddity. He caught a baby angler fish.

NORTHPORT

Bowmans Sporting Goods says blues of every size are in practically every place. Thursday 4 and 5 lb. blue fish came in by the Lilco loading platform and were taken on plugs. By Saturday they were on Asharaken Beach. Mr. Grossless of East Northport was fishing in Northport Bay over the weekend and he took a 22 lb. 5 oz. blue using a small surge tube which he modified. Prices Bend has a good school of blues near the moored boats taking bunker bait. Tom Tropani of Northport took an 18½ lb. striper from there while bluefishing with live bunker.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle said there are some nice weakfish near buoy 6 in Northport Bay. They are being taken on a hi-lo rig. Snappers are all over especially around the docks. Striped bass fishing has slowed but the clam chummers at Eatons Neck are getting their share. Bluefish are in the bays if you can find the bunker schools. Outside at 11B they are down deep on tubes.

GLEN COVE

Big blues have hit the area. John at **Glen Cove Sports** reports that these fish are down deep on wire using big tubes or umbrella rigs. The striped bass are consistently leaning towards the worm trollers. The surfisherman using poppers has to work for his fish. Snapper fishing is growing in both size and quantity.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle said the snapper fishing is good at the docks. The blue fish are definetely in as the trollers are hitting them up to 12 pounds on tubes and umbrella rigs. Striped bass plugging at several rocky points have succeeded in landing several fish from 13 to 20 lbs. For the angler wanting weakfish he should search out patches of green grass where the shrimp are lurking.

BAYVILLE

Mike at **Pump's Park Fishing Station** reports the porgy fishing has slowed down. The blue fish are in but you have to hunt for them as they are spotty.

CITY ISLAND

John's Gun and Tackle in the Bronx said the only thing really good are the porgies. They are being taken from Oyster Bay to Smithtown Bay. Striped bass has definetely slowed with this hot weather. Blues have been picky but trollers working deep around Stepping Stones or Throggs Neck Bridge have had some sucess. A few have also been taken on chunk bait.

Anthony Mazzella of the Bronx with a 44 lb. striper he caught on live bunker at Harts Island. Phot courtesy of Jacks Bait and Tackle.

Edith Drinkwater with a 22 lb. bass she caught along with 29 weaks, 5 snappers and 2 fluke. Subscriber Club Photo.

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

North Jersey fishing has been excellent the past week for just about everything. Most beaches are producing good catches of fluke, weakfish and small blues. School bass 5 to 10 pounds are also more plentiful this week the majority are being taken on sandworms and bloodworms. Some larger bass to 42 pounds were also taken using bunker chunks and plugs.

Offshore, the Shrewsbury Rocks seems to be the only area still producing large catches of bluefish for daytime chummers. Boats from as far north as City Island and as far south as Barnaget Inlet are all fishing there. Some big weakfish are also being taken on the night trips with some as large as 13 pounds reported.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

Little change has taken place in the overall fishing picture since last week. Bluefishing has improved, but is still somewhat spotty. Blues to 17 pounds were caught on bunker chunks, live bunker and trolling surgical tubes. Not to much reported in the way of striper activity although some school bass are being taken.

As for bottom fishing, porgies are providing some action, along with bluefish. Snapper blues seem to cover the entire sound. Small Kastmasters and spearing will do the job for these.

TIDE TABLES

ON →		SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
DAY		AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
8/7	THURSDAY	8:19	8:36	9:42	10:01	11:44	—	11:47	—
8/8	FRIDAY	9:08	9:23	10:32	10:53	12:01	12:31	12:05	12:35
8/9	SATURDAY	9:57	10:12	11:23	11:43	12:50	1:20	12:54	1:22
8/10	SUNDAY	10:49	11:05	—	12:15	1:42	2:09	1:44	2:11
8/11	MONDAY	11:42	11:58	12:38	1:08	2:32	3:01	2:35	3:01
8/12	TUESDAY	—	12:37	1:34	2:06	3:28	3:57	3:28	3:56
8/13	WEDNESDAY	12:54	1:31	2:35	3:07	4:34	5:06	4:26	4:52
8/14	THURSDAY	1:52	2:29	3:41	4:12	5:56	6:28	5:27	5:53

SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Inlet & Dem. Pt.	−0 38
Coast Giard Sta.	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 00
Beach Ch. (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet −0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". − 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
8/7	4:45	**11:30**	5:20	**11:55**
8/8	5:40		6:15	**12:30**
8/9	6:40	**12:55**	7:10	**1:30**
8/10	7:45	**2:00**	8:10	**2:35**
8/11	8:40	**2:55**	9:05	**3:25**
8/12	9:40	**3:50**	10:00	**4:20**
8/13	10:45	**4:55**	11:05	**5:25**
8/14	11:35	**5:50**	11:55	**6:20**

PHASES OF THE MOON

8-7	8-13	8-21	8-29
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

SUNRISE/SUNSET

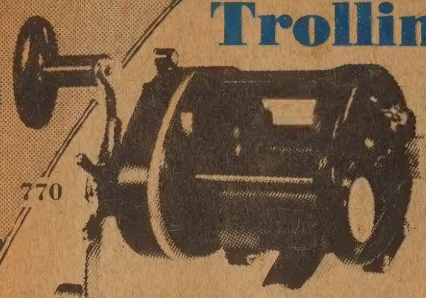
8-6	6:02	8:09
8:12	6:07	8:02
8-18	6:13	7:54
8-24	6:19	7:46

Sears

Rod and Reel SALE

August 7 thru 16

Sears Salt Water Trolling Reels

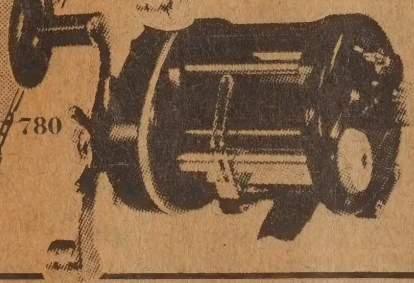


770

Non-Level Wind

Sears Price **19.99**

- Has free-spool, non-level wind star drag, 4 to 1 gear ratio, 3-pc. construction and anti-reverse.



780

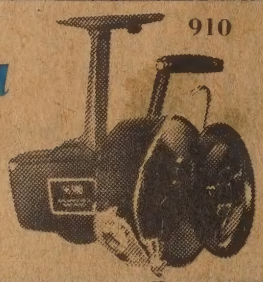
Level Wind Reel

Sears Price **25.99**

- Level-wind - free spool, star drag, 4 to 1 gear ratio, 3-pc. construction, anti-reverse.

Salt Water Spinning Reel

910



Regular $18.99 **14.88**

- Automatic full bail retrieve
- Collapsible handle ... gear ration - 3.13 to 1

A. Ted Williams 6-Ft. Heavy Action 1-Pc. Solid Meat Rod (Not shown)

- Chrome-plated brass reel seat with double lock nuts
- Chrome-plated wire frame stainless steel guides

14.88 Regular $17.99

B. Sears Solid 2-Piece 8-Ft. Medium Action Boat Spinning Rod

- Chromed brass reel seat with double lock nuts
- Double resin coated nylon windings in tan and black

13.88 Regular $17.99

C. Sears 11-Ft. 2-Piece Medium Action Surf Spinning Rods

- Has glass to glass ferrules, chrome plate brass reel seat, cork foregrip, wooden rear p

24.88 Regular $29.99

D. Solid Boat Trolling Rods

1-Pc. Boat, Bay, Pier

5-ft. Lightweight Sears Low Price	6.39
5-ft. 8-in. Boat Sears Low Price	7.79
6-ft. Boat Rod Sears Low Price	8.69

B. C. D.

Bay Shore, L.I.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
Fordham Road, N.Y.
Hackensack, N.J.
Hicksville, L.I.
Huntington, L.I.
Livingston, N.J.
Middletown, N.J.
Nanuet, N.Y.
Newark, N.J.
New Brunswick, N.J.
Paramus Park, N.J.

Sears SPORTS CENTER
home of the Ted Williams brand

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Riverhead, L.I.
Rockville Ctr., L.I.
Smith Haven, L.I.
Somerville, N.J.
Stamford, Conn.
Staten Island, N.Y.
Union City, N.J.
Watchung, N.J.
White Plains, N.Y.
Willowbrook, N.J.